The Canadian Jewish News

44 Pages Thursday, December 16, 1993 Tevet 2, 5754 65¢

Publications Mail Registration No. 1683 Postage Paid at Toronto (61¢ + 4¢ G.S.T.)

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Holiday deadline

As a result of the upcoming statutory holidays *The CJN* offices will be closed Dec. 24, 27, 28 and 31. Early deadlines will apply for the issue of Jan. 6, 1994.

The editorial deadline is Tuesday, Dec. 21.

The deadline for organizations and classified advertising is Tuesday, Dec. 21 at noon. For retail display advertising, the deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 22 at noon.

The Canadian Jewish News would like to wish all its readers a Happy Chanukah.

The CJN will not publish the issue of Dec. 30.

Rabin, Arafat downplay delay in withdrawal

JERUSALEM (JTA/JPFS) — Israel's security forces and Jewish settlers are braced for more violence in the territories in the coming weeks, in the wake of last Sunday's failure to begin the agreed-to Israeli troop withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and Jericho.

The date once called sacred was postponed, after Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat were unable to conclude negotiations in time to meet the Monday deadline to begin implementing the Israel-PLO autonomy accord.

The two leaders announced their failure to reach agreement on several key details of the accord, including the geographical boundaries of Jericho, control of border points and other issues.

Rabin and Arafat agreed only to meet again in the Egyptian capital in 10 days.

There was also no agreement on expected gestures that would symbolically launch the start of the accord's implementation today, such as the release of Palestinian prisoners or an IDF withdrawal from a Gaza Strip refugee camp.

The ambience in Cairo was considerably cooler than the one at the Sept. 13 signing in Washington of the Israel-PLO accord. And this time there was no public handshake.

Prompted by reporters to clasp Arafat's hand for the cameras, Rabin declined, saying only, "Later, later."

A sullen-looking Rabin told a news conference after conferring with Arafat that a follow-up meeting had been decided upon in order "to give ourselves a certain amount of time to rethink" their positions.

"We [will] meet again in Egypt in 10 days," Rabin said. "We literally need more time. Ten days is nothing in a conflict that has lasted 100 years."

At a separate news conference, Arafat said the two sides were still committed to implementing the accord, signed in Washington in September.

"We agreed that all of us are committed to the declaration of principles (which form the basis of the self-rule accord), but we have some differences over some points and we agreed to have another meeting," he said.

Arafat, who had previously warned of the dangers of not meeting the Dec. 13 deadline, told reporters that 10 days were "not a long time," echoing Rabin's downplaying of the delay.

Both leaders pointedly refrained from setting a new deadline.

Asked at the news conference whether he feared the delay would be met with increased violence in the territories, Arafat replied: "I hope not."

Only hours later, an Egged bus driver was seriously wounded south of Hebron when terrorists opened fire on his bus.

Shai Bazak, a spokesman for the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, asked after the incident, "How many warnings will it take to wake up this government which is walking with its head buried in the sand?"

Rabin and Arafat also met for 30 minutes with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

After those talks, Rabin held 80 minutes of private discussions with Arafat, the first time the two leaders have ever met alone. For the next hour, both leaders were joined by a retinue of advisers.

They said the committee for establishing a Palestinian civil authority in the territories was scheduled to return to the negotiating table in the Egyptian seaside town of el-Arish last Monday.

The second committee, which will continue to discuss matters of economic cooperation, was slated to resume its meetings in Paris the same day.

In a related development, on the same day as Rabin and Arafat met in Cairo, Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi announced she was leaving the PLO to set up an independent human rights group.

The new group would monitor the performance of the new Palestinian government after it assumes authority in the territories.

Ashrawi, who has for years been a high-profile Palestinian spokesperson with ties to the PLO, is reportedly displeased with what she views as Arafat's dictatorial style of running the organization.

CHANUKAH AT QUEEN'S PARK

Atop the cherry picker Rabbi Mosher Spalter, administrator at Chabad Lubavitch and Chaim Waxman, vice-consul of Israel, light the first candle in front of Queen's Park. Following the program, the Cheder Chabad Children's Choir entertained. The giant candelabra was one of 10 large menorahs erected in Metro Toronto by Chabad Lubavitch to promote awareness of the holiday. [Alron photo]

If we haven't heard from you yet...

Please complete and return The CJN Reader Survey included in the December 9 issue.

PLO chief invited to visit Canada

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — PLO chair Yasser Arafat has been invited to visit Canada sometime in the new year, the Ministry of External Affairs stated last week.

Rodney Moore, a spokesman for the ministry, said Canada's ambassador to Tunisia, Michel Roy, has been meeing with the PLO in Tunisia to lay the groundwork for the trip but that no firm date has yet been set.

The proposed visit is part of Canada's effort to seek out constructive ways to further the peace process, Moore said. Part of that effort is the allocation of $55 million to go towards improving the lives of Palestinians in the territories, he added.

Rob Ritter, national executive director of the Canada-Israel committee, the Jewish community's pro-Israel lobby group, said the likelihood of Arafat's visiting Canada in the short term is not high, given the impending Israeli pullout from Jericho and the Gaza Strip.

The CIC "believes that more dialogue is better than less. Canada plays an important role as a facilitator, trying to enhance the peace development process," he said.

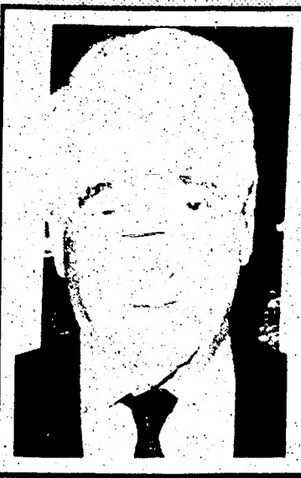
Israeli embassy spokesman Aviad Ivri said, "Canada deserves every credit for its will and efforts to promote the Middle East peace process and for offering its good services to all sides. It seems that for that purpose, Mr. Arafat will be visiting Ottawa. Hopefully it will contribute to making peace in the Middle East a reality for the benefit of all its peoples."

Ritter said he hopes that Canadian officials meeting with Arafat would "continue to promote confidence-building measures such as implementing democratic principles in all the efforts the Palestinians are taking in their own affairs."

Canada has been encouraging improved relations between Israelis and Palestinians, through economic, social and cultural avenues. Ritter said he hoped Canadian officials would push those goals in meetings with the PLO chief.

Ritter said the meeting with Arafat could further solidify Canada's role as "an honest broker and facilitator of the peace process." Canada plays key roles in many of the multilateral talks involving Israel and its Arab neighbors, particulary on refugees.

Asked whether the CIC might seek a meeting with Arafat, Ritter said, "It's something to think about."



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Canada

Witty ties accessibility to funding

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO —Facing "significant increases" in deficits already amounting to "millions of dollars" in the next few years, the Toronto Board of Jewish Education may have to drop its policy of admitting students whose parents cannot pay the full fee, its executive director said recently.

Rabbi Irwin Witty said it is unrealistic to expect the Board's affiliated schools to keep increasing their bank loans and calling on parents for even more fundraising efforts.

"I hope I'm dead wrong but I don't know how long the schools can dip into their revenues," he said.

Jewish education is big business, Rabbi Witty said, pointing out that the Board's 9,662 students in greater Toronto require a budget of $55 to $60 million a year, with $42 to $47 million from tuition fees and $6.5 million from the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.

If the community wants to continue the position that no student should be denied a Jewish education, then it will have to come to grips with the problem and provide more money, he said.

Later, Rabbi Witty said it was "scandalous" that the Ontario government has refused to give any funding to the Jewish schools. He also said fears that the public school system would fall apart as a result are "unadulterated poppycock."

"We know we're not going to get funding from an NDP government," he said. "Premier Bob Rae has conceded there is an element of unfairness but he said he won't do it."

If the Board loses its case for funding before the Ontario Court of Appeal, it will appeal to the Supreme Court of Canada, he said.

Rabbi Witty spoke at a meeting sponsored by the Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University, Beth Tzedec Synagogue and the Institute for Jewish Learning of the JCC on Educating the Jewish Child: Where, How and Why?

Another panelist, Prof. Arthur Kruger, dean of Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, said a proper Jewish education requires the student to follow through to a Jewish high school. "Cutting off a Jewish education at age 13 means that the student has a child's view of Judaism and an adult view of western culture, since 85 to 90 per cent of day school graduates go on to post-secondary education," said Kruger. (Rabbi Witty earlier noted that only 1,390 of the 9,662 day school total are in Jewish high schools.)

Though a product of the public school system himself, Kruger said when he was head of the Faculty of Arts and Science at the University of Toronto, he found that graduates of CHAT (Community Hebrew Academy of Toronto) had the best marks. Study habits of graduates of Jewish day schools were excellent, he said.

More that 50 per cent of Jewish children in North York attend public schools, said fellow panelist Elsa Chandler, chair of the North York Board of Education.

The public schools should not be expected to do the work of the family and synagogues in imparting Jewish values to the child, she said.

A question about whether teachers in Jewish day schools are properly trained to "nurture" children brought a response from Kruger that there are not enough highly-trained Jewish studies teachers. "A significant number of schools depend on Israeli teachers and they are superb after a year, during which they are not so superb," he said.

"There is a great deal of nurturing in our schools," said Rabbi Witty. "Whether it is a child-centered school depends on the teacher. The school boards are extremely sensitive to the kind of teachers they hire and there is more training than before. In the main, the teachers are doing a terrific job."

Chandler said she found it difficult to say whether the supplementary, or after-school Jewish classes, in which 6,094 children are enrolled, are doing a worthwhile job. "I believe most children do benefit but many feel burdened down as the classes compete with other activities."

Kruger said it takes five years of the supplementary classes to equal one year of day school. "If anyone is serious about transmitting Jewish values, a day school and then a high school is necessary."

In response to another question, Rabbi witty said he was "fascinated" by the fact that most of the parent-professionals who send their children to day schools did not attend day schools themselves. "Apparently they feel a need for Jewish literacy and it implies a dissatisfaction with part-time Jewish education."

Jay Levine, chair of the Hebrew University's Issues and Insights Program, was moderator.

THE FIRST CANDLE

North York Councillor Mike Feldman lit the first candle at Mel Lastman Square at a ceremony sponsored by the Jewish Russian Community Centre. Greetings were brought by MPPs Monte Kwinter and Charles Harnick, MPs Jim Peterson and Sarkis Assadourian, Israeli Consul General Dror Zeigerman, school board representative Mae Waese and Rabbi Yoseph Zaltzman. [Jeff Rosen photo]

JF&CS fighting child abuse

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO — Jewish Family & Child Service (JF&CS) is launching a campaign to sensitize the Jewish community to physical punishment of children.

The agency will distribute up to 4,000 copies of a position paper that states in no uncertain terms that physical punishment is harmful to any child's development.

The 21-page booklet, to be mailed to clients and distributed through synagogues and other agencies, notes that the real figure of child abuse in Canada is believed to be much higher than the official tally of one in six children, because of under-reporting and lack of recognition of the problem.

The study stresses that the Jewish community is not exempt from incidents of child abuse, despite denial and the best intentions of parents.

And child abuse is "contrary" to Jewish values, it adds.

Nearly a year in the making, the paper lays its philosophy out bluntly. "We strongly believe, notwithstanding Jewish values and heritage, [that] all forms of physical violence, including physical punishment, are harmful and unacceptable," it says.

Effective discipline, it argues, can be achieved without physical punishment.

Communal and religious leadership, coupled with public education, are essential elements in preventing child abuse.

The study argues the following:

- all corporal punishment of children is harmful and inappropriate. Any physical assault on a child is unacceptable.
- children have the same basic rights as adults, including the right to special protection and freedom from all forms of violence and abuse. JF&CS is "committed" to promoting and protecting children's rights under the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child and other laws.
- corporal punishment must be prohibited in all education systems.
- JF&CS does not permit physical punishment as a method of discipline for any child placed in its care and indeed, has a legal duty to offer protection to those children who need it.

Some of the Jewish community's values and beliefs, can become obstacles to recognizing child abuse, including:

- the concept of *shalom bayit* (peace in the home) above all else;

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CIRCULATION

Average circulation per issue: 48,777 copies.
Publisher's sworn statement January, 1993.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Canada: $26.75, 1 year, including GST.
U.S.A.: $50 U.S., 1 year.
All other countries: $60 U. S., 1 year

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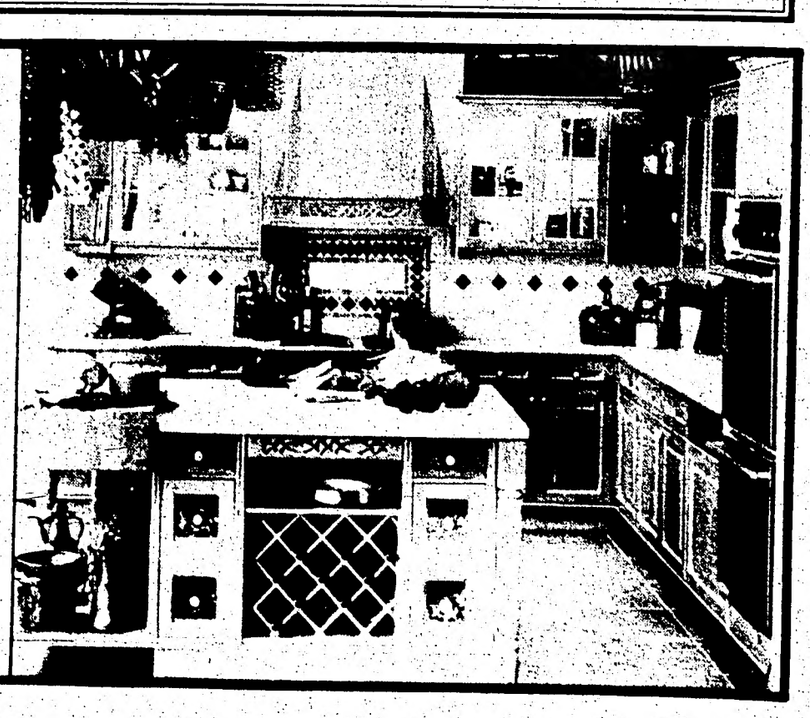

Communities rapid growth tied to intermarriage increase

Second of a two-part series.

By JANICE ARNOLD

MONTREAL — The rapid growth of smaller Jewish communities like Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton without matching institutional resources is one explanation for the much higher rate of intermarriage, according to a new analysis of the 1991 Canadian census.

The size of a Jewish community does not seem to be the only factor determining how likely Jews are to marry a non-Jew, say the authors of *Demographic Challenges Facing Canadian Jewry: Initial Findings From the 1991 Census*.

Accordingly, Winnipeg, with its well-established Jewish institutions, has a level of intermarriage far below that of Vancouver, which has more Jews. The rapidly growing communities also tend to attract young people of marriageable age, but with less connection to community.

Nationally, 16.4 percent of all Jewish persons in husband-wife families (including children) lived in a household where one spouse was not Jewish, either by religion or ethnicity — the accepted definition of Jewish for this study, sponsored by McGill University, Statistics Canada and the Council of Jewish Federations Canada. That's an increase of about 30 per cent since 1981.

The figures vary widely by city. Montreal's intermarriage rate is 6.8 per cent rate while in Vancouver it is 24.5 per cent. Toronto's rate was nine per cent, up slightly from 1981.

"Those communities where a higher percentage of Jews identified as Jews without religious affiliation had higher rates of intermarriage," the authors state.

The researchers will next look at the religion of the married couple, not the whole family.

More than three-quarters of all Jews lived in traditional husband-wife families, according to the report, but over 14 percent lived alone, somewhat more than the Canadian rate.

Elderly women make up a disproportionate number of those living alone. However, Vancouver with its younger community had by far the highest percentage of Jews living alone, almost 20 per cent.

"Only one in five was elderly. The remainder represent a larger young single population — many of whom recently migrated to Vancouver. Fifteen per cent of all Jews who live alone arrived in Vancouver during the past five years," says the report.

The census data clearly points to "a trend of very high rates of educational achievement and the urbanization and professionalization" among Jews.

Another trend the analysis revealed was that of Jewish poverty. While income figures will be released later, the data analyzed points to what the authors call "the persistence of invisible poverty" among Jews in Canada.

Almost as many Jews as Canadians — 15.7 per cent versus 18.6 per cent — had incomes near or below Statistics Canada's poverty line. In 1990, that line was drawn at $14,155 for a single person living in a city of over 500,000 people. For smaller cities, the income cut off was $12,433.

Women, people who live alone, single-parent families and the elderly are over-represented among the Jewish poor. The highest rates of Jewish poverty are in Montreal (20.4 per cent), Calgary (18.1 per cent), Vancouver (17.2 per cent) and Edmonton (15.3 per cent). Ottawa and Halifax had the lowest. The figure for Toronto is 13.3 per cent.

"Poverty affects one in six Jews in Canada, yet continues to be underrecognized by Canadians generally and by many Jews in particular," says the report.

"The Jewish poor, however, have a unique dimension. They are a minority among the Jews because they are poor, and they are a minority among the poor because they are Jews. They lack representation in both communities."

The census income data does not take into account other factors determining standard of living, such as owning one's home or being a student.

* * *

Of the Jews living in families, 50 per cent of those aged 15 and over were either enrolled in university or had completed a BA. Sixteen per cent had an MA, MD or PhD. Many of these belong to Jews between 25 and 40.

The corresponding figures for the Canadian population as a whole are 20 per cent and four per cent, respectively.

On the other hand, 23 per cent of Jews have less than a high school education.

* * *

The survey also revealed the work habits and scholastic achievements of Canadian Jews.

Jews are three times more likely than Canadians as a whole to pursue careers in medicine, law and accounting, and twice as likely than the national rate to be managers and administrators. Only 13 per cent were engaged in manual trades.

Jews were also three times as likely to work in the business services, clothing and jewelry industries than Canadians. A higher percentage of Jews were also in the education sector.

Jews tend to work longer. Of those over 65, 22 per cent of Jews were still in the labor force compared to nine per cent of Canadians the same age.

Jewish women were less educated and under-represented in the professions than Jewish men: 51 per cent of Jewish men were either in university or had a BA, compared to 44 per cent of women. This gap is similar among Jews aged 25 to 40.

To end the princess image, 60 per cent of Jewish women in Canada worked.

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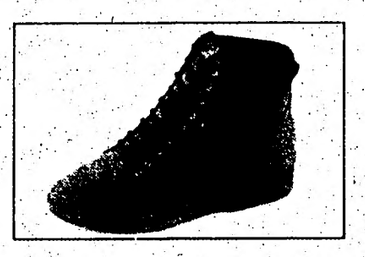

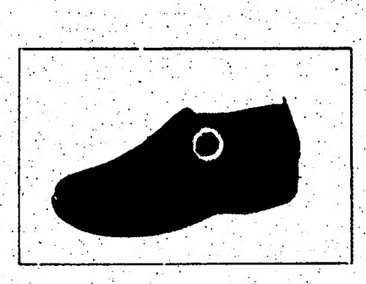

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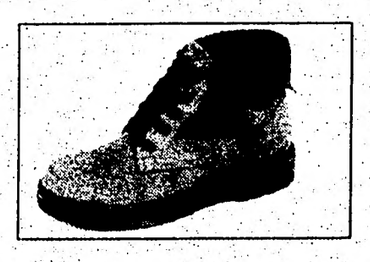

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Age fails to hamper Judge Cohen

By DAVID LAZARUS

MONTREAL — At 83, Judge Maxwell Cohen, one of Canada's preeminent legal scholars and jurists, is still taking on formidable tasks.

His appointment to the new Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) committee on constitutional and charter review issues is seen by some as a testament to his capacity and readiness to tackle larger issues.

For admirers like McGill University law professor Irwin Cotler, it came as no surprise.

Paying homage to Cohen recently at CJC's Montreal headquarters, Cotler described his former law professor as a continuing mentor, friend, influence and inspiration, a "true renaissance man...truly a man for all seasons."

The tribute was made following publication of a collection of essays in Cohen's honor. The collection is titled *Law, Policy, and International Justice* and was published by McGill-Queen's University Press.

Cotler writes in the forward to *Law, Policy, and International Justice* that the greatest lesson he learned from Cohen was to treat the law "not only [as] a technical body of rules, [but as something articulating] the values that men and women should seek to live by; law...not only an agency of social control, but [as] an organizing principle for the reconfiguration of society — with respect for human dignity at its core."

Cohen, a former dean of law and professor emeritus at McGill, represents everything that an academic, activist and jurist can and should be, said Cotler.

Judge Maxwell Cohen

"His scholarship is as compelling, original, and enduring today as it ever was," he said.

Cotler said he wanted to present a "snapshot" of Cohen's career, but it was a picture full of texture and colour, and sharp with detail.

Winnipeg-born and Harvard-educated Cohen specialized in the study of international law, legal history and education, public law and constitutional affairs.

Cotler said in the latter area, Cohen was often asked by provincial and federal governments to provide original and stimulating insight. Cohen also chaired several Royal Commissions.

As a judge, he presided over the ad hoc International Court of Justice. He also published over 500 articles for legal journals and magazines, including *Canadian Forum* and *Saturday Night*.

More recently, Cohen also provided a fresh view into the legal questions surrounding the role of the United Nations during the Gulf War.

On behalf of the Jewish community, too, Cohen has been an equally eloquent voice, Cotler said.

Cohen chaired the ministry of justice's Special Committee for Hate Propaganda, and for two decades presided over the forerunner to the Canada-Israel Committee.

During his tenure, Cotler said CJC, B'nai Brith and the Canadian Zionist Federation worked together as an "institutional unity" because of Cohen. He earned their trust and held the whole thing together. It was that leadership that opened the doors between the Jewish community and the Canadian government, Cotler said.

When Cotler became president of CJC in 1981, his first appointment was to make Cohen chair of the select committee on the constitution, enabling the organization to give "collective expression" of the Canadian Jewish community's perspective to the Joint House Committee on the Constitution.

Cotler spoke of Cohen's "legendary contribution" to the sitting committee, evident in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. "Some parts," Cotler said, "are a direct result of his craftsmanship and initiative."

In his new work at CJC, Cohen will no doubt continue the work of a long life, Cotler said, "inquiring, crafting and carving public advocacy on behalf of the Jewish community and charting the course of human rights."

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Canada

Dr. Sefik Hosal (left), from Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey, is working with Dr. Jeremy Freeman at the Department of Otolaryngology at Mt. Sinai Hospital in Toronto.

Mt. Sinai has ties with Turkish hospital

By LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —It is not surprising that the Otolaryngology Department at Toronto's Mt. Sinai Hospital has a close relationship with medical institutions and personnel in Israel.

That it has a similar relationship with Turkey gives one pause.

Otolaryngology is the branch of medicine that deals with the ear, nose and larynx. Department head Dr. Arnold Noyek says this discipline makes up one-third of a regular family practice.

Mt. Sinai's Otolaryngology Department has been in the forefront of the hospital's international efforts.

The Canada-Israel Scientific Exchange Program in Otolaryngology (CISEPO) has been operating for some years between Mt. Sinai Hospital and such Israeli institutions as Hadassah Medical Centre in Jerusalem, Beilinson Medical Centre, the Soroka Medical School, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, and the Israel Otoloryngological Society, where it supports continuing education through lectureships, symposia and surgical videotapes.

Other major hospitals and medical schools in Israel have expressed interest in the program.

The program involves the mentoring of exchange scientists and clinical fellows here in Toronto. Relationships between personnel involved in the program remain strong and often result in joint publications and research.

CISEPO II is a newer network, with connections to the universities of Rotterdam and Utrecht in the Netherlands, Australia, New Zealand and even China.

Dr. Jeremy Freeman, head of the postgraduate program at Mt. Sinai's Otolaryngology Department, spent a week last spring as visiting professor at Hacettepe University Hospital in Ankara.

He was invited by colleague Dr. Nazmi Hosal for the 30th anniversary of the founding of the otolaryngology department under the auspices of Prof. Ihsan Doromaci, head of UNICEF and a founder of the university.

Besides lecturing at the hospital, Freeman was guest speaker at the International Federation of Otolaryngology Society meeting in Istanbul.

He also made some surgical training videos. Head and neck cancers are particularly prevalent there, Freeman told *The CJN*, because of the heavy smoking.

Freeman, who went to Turkey with his wife Elayne and daughter Allison, 11, said he found the university and academic communities "gracious, and very welcoming. They are hungry for knowledge — education is a major need, and they want to emulate North American standards."

Hosal's son, Dr. Sefik Hosal, also from Hacettepe University, has been working since September at Mt. Sinai Hospital with Freeman.

Freeman explained Hosal is "learning North American approaches to diseases of the head and neck, especially surgical techniques."

As well, Freeman said, he is doing cancer research. Hosal will stay in Toronto with his bride for one year.

"It's an apprenticeship. Europeans and Asians like to follow what they see as our esoteric and sophisticated methodology."

Noyek stressed that CISEPO is not just a skill-teaching program. "We are doing research in areas having a world-wide significance."

Those taking part in the exchange programs "are always conscious of being emissaries of Jews, representing a Jewish hospital," said Noyek.

He feels good relations are being fostered with those not particularly friendly to Israel, such as Iran, Syria and Egypt.

The CISEPO programs are sponsored by the Saul A. Silverman and Latner Family Funds.

NETANYAHU VISIT

Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu (left) and Israel's Toronto-based Consul-General Dror Zeigerman share some words at a meeting held recently for Jewish community leaders. Netanyahu issued a warning that the Israel-PLO accord, if unaltered, could lead to war.

Heritage Front's Droege ordered to stand trial

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — White supremacist Wolfgang Droege and Peter Mitreviski of the Heritage Front have been ordered to stand trial on assault charges arising from a street brawl with anti-racists last June.

Droege, head of the Heritage Front, is charged with possession of a weapon and with assault. Mitreviski is charged with possession of a weapon for a purpose contrary to the Criminal Code.

Evidence presented at a preliminary hearing last week indicated that Droege used a long metal flashlight as a club to strike Malcolm Sheppard, a Toronto student. Sheppard told Ontario Court, Provincial Division that he attended a demonstration on the evening of June 12, that was organized by a group called Anti-Racist Action (ARA). The demonstration was intended to protest the contents of a Heritage Front telephone hotline that he found to be "racist and homophobic."

During that demonstration the house of Gary Schipper, the voice on the hotline, was damaged by some of the protesters, Sheppard testified, adding he did not take part in the vandalism.

Afterwards, he and some friends went to a bar in the Bathurst and College Street area. Later that night a group of people he recognized by their dress — bomber jackets sporting Celtic crosses — began congregating on the south side of College opposite him and other ARA demonstrators, he said. Under cross-examination, he said he was concerned "they might be seeking some sort of general, haphazard revenge on anyone who was at the demonstration."

Sheppard said he later saw Droege, whom he recognized from posters and from a newspaper picture, holding a "black, metallic object." Sheppard said Droege swung it like a baseball bat from over his right shoulder, striking him on the left side of the head. He briefly lost consciousness and fell, Sheppard testified.

X-rays taken the next day showed he had three fractures of the jaw and cheekbone, requiring cosmetic surgery. He spent the next three days in hospital.

In other testimony, Police Constable Cummins said he and a partner saw the violent outbreak from an unmarked car parked about 50 metres away. There were about 30 people in each of two groups, one on the north side of College, the other on the south side, he testified.

Cummins said he saw four or five people assaulting an unidentified victim who was lying in the west-bound passing lane on College. Cummins said he began running towards the incident and as he neared, he saw a man holding what looked like a bar or pipe, but which turned out to be a flashlight, striking the victim on the ground. The suspect, whom he later identified as Droege, began to run towards a nearby car, where Cummins said he arrested him.

The one-day preliminary hearing was held to determine if there was enough evidence to warrant a trial. Both Droege, 44, and Mitreviski, 24, are to appear in court on Jan. 26 to set a date for a trial before a judge and jury.

Prior to the preliminary hearing, Droege had spent about a week in jail after complaints were raised by Canadian Jewish Congress that he had violated terms of his bail by speaking to the media. Droege was released from custody one day before the preliminary hearing on $25,000 bail with the condition attached that he not speak to the press.

CJC calls for task force on racism

By MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER — Canadian Jewish Congress, Pacific region, has called for the establishment of a federal-provincial task force to deal with racial hatred.

The proposal is one of many contained in *Issues of Concern to the Jewish Community of British Columbia, 1993-94* a document released by regional chair Renee Switzer Bellas.

In the forward, Bellas says the report aims to familiarize all levels of governments with the issues concerning the province's Jewish community.

Congress urges the governments to "pursue a highly aggressive policy against all persons or organizations which promote and instigate hate crimes."

Use of the Human Rights Act (Bill 33) can be an effective way to combat hate literature in the province, the document states, but it should be "closely monitored" to determine its effectiveness.

CJC also says government should take a more active role in accommodating the needs of ethnic communities in such areas as education, health and social services, the workplace and housing. "Such an approach will enhance tolerance and validate the positive contribution of cultural communities in the life of our province," says the report.

As well, the document calls for "adequate funding" from the B.C. Ministry of Education to develop a Holocaust curriculum. "Canadian Jewish Congress is prepared to assist in providing recognized expertise from within the Jewish community," the document states.

Other proposals made by Congress include:

• Appointment of a multiculturalism commissioner to monitor compliance of the recently-legislated Multiculturalism Act.

• Prohibition of business practices that discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, nationality, ancestry, place of origin or sex, particularly in the case of those businesses who observe the Arab boycott.

• The B.C. government should "do its utmost" to establish further trade ties with Israel, like working with the Jewish business community to create and fund a provincial branch of the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce. CJC points out that in 1992, trade between the two countries totalled $300 million. B.C. trade figures show that $10 million worth of goods were exported to Israel from here but B.C. imported only $1 million worth.

Jews are involved in every major political party, says the CJC. "We take pride in working together with all British Columbians to make this province a better place to live."

Victoria students learn about Holocaust

VICTORIA — As Holocaust survivors age, it is essential that today's younger generation learn about "the recent most tragic story in human history" so it will be instilled in their minds and they will be able to pass it on to their children, said Rabbi Victor Reinstein, of Congregation Emanu-El at a Holocaust symposium for high school students.

The symposium was the first to be held for students in Victoria and anywhere on Vancouver Island and attracted some 500 young people in two all-day sessions.

The reality of the story, which still haunts Jews today, is that while people heard Hitler's ravings, nobody stood up to stop him before it was too late, the rabbi said.

But, he went on, "we know the Holocaust story, because we heard it right from the survivors amidst us. They were witnesses to what happened and now we are the witnesses because we heard them speak and we must be able to transmit their experiences to our children and to generations to come.

"It is our responsibility to hear and tell about their tales of terror and to keep their images and stories in our hearts."

It is especially important in Victoria and in the rest of Canada to know the true story of the Holocaust because Holocaust denial "has reared its ugly, vicious head. We must be able to respond to those who spread the vicious racist lies that the Holocaust didn't happen, and that the gas chambers didn't exist," said Rabbi Reinstein.

The rabbi said every effort must be made to prevent Holocaust deniers from spreading their hatred. "It is the responsibility of all of us to learn, to speak out, when such hatred begins to unravel."

He called on the students to protest racism and hatred at the expense of ethnics and to discourage ethnic jokes. He said it is the responsibility of all to speak up against all forms of racism, whether it be against Jews, blacks, Chinese, gays or lesbians. "It takes courage to do this," he acknowledged, "but the Holocaust denying stories we hear today are not bedtime stories and we must find that courage to fight them."

Rabbi Reinstein dedicated the symposium to the memory of Willie Jacobs, a 73-year-old survivor of Auschwitz, Buchenwald and other notorious camps who, during his residence in Victoria, spoke to students and hundreds of others about his horrifying experiences. Jacobs died suddenly of a heart attack a few weeks ago. (See also *CJN*, April 15.)

William Nicholls, professor emeritus of religious studies at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, a member of the Canadian Jewish Congress Pacific region standing committee on the Holocaust, who is not Jewish, said it's virtually impossible to absorb the enormity of the killing of six million Jews — "and it's hard to deal with." But speaking with individual survivors, as the students were doing at the symposium, was more relevant.

"Many of the survivors were about the same age as you are today [teenagers] when they were in the camps," he said. "By undergoing some of their pain as they speak, by caring about the future, by urging you not to hate, perhaps you can get the feeling in time of what the Jews went through in the Holocaust."

Nicholls said that while there have been many tragic events in history and horrible things have happened to people, "the more I read and hear about it the more convinced I am that the Holocaust was unique in the history of mankind and that it is not just an example of something else." He said it was rooted in the hatred of Jews for centuries. — M.L.

Equality party co-founder quits Quebec provincial party

MONTREAL —Saying the Equality party's decision to field candidates in at least 40 ridings in the next provincial election was the last straw, Robert Libman has quit the Quebec provincial party he co-founded five years ago.

Running so many candidates will split the vote and help elect the Parti Quebecois (PQ), Libman told a recent press conference, where he announced his resignation.

Libman said he will continue to sit as an independent member of Quebec's National Assembly and that he intends to run in the 1994 election in the heavily Jewish riding of D'Arcy McGee either as an independent or a Liberal, if he can get the nomination.

At least four other people have made it known they are also interested in the Liberal nomination in D'Arcy McGee.

Libman said he had not made a decision on the choice he faces.

Libman had favored fielding Equality candidates only in ridings where support for the PQ is very weak.

"I refuse to take part in any movement that would facilitate the return to power of the PQ," he said.

This is the major concern of residents of D'Arcy McGee, especially since "a nationalist wave" swept Quebec in the federal election, Libman said, referring to the Bloc Quebecois' taking 54 of 75 Quebec seats.

Libman, who stepped down from the leadership of the Equality party last March, said he also disagreed with the party's support of a federal wing.

Robert Libman

"Despite much criticism levelled against it in the past four years, the Equality party did serve a real, useful and important purpose," he said, hinting that purpose had been accomplished.

"It sent an extremely important message to the government and it gave a wounded community an outlet, a pressure valve, and a way to register its protest with a government it felt had let the community down."

Libman, 33, co-founded Equality with Gerald Klein — its first president — during a period when anglophone Quebec was outraged and demoralized by the Bourassa government's passage of Bill 178.

That legislation enabled Quebec to override the Supreme Court's decision that Bill 101's prohibition of languages other than French on commercial signs was a violation of freedom of speech.

Equality party leader Keith Henderson said he was shocked by Libman's resignation and the speculation that he wants the Liberal nomination.

"Robert was always convinced we needed an independent alternative to the nationalist agenda in Quebec," he said.

Henderson wonders how Libman could run for the Liberals when many of its policies are at odds with what Libman has espoused.

In particular, he cited Libman's opposition to Bill 86, the law passed this summer to replace Bill 178.

Equality's D'Arcy McGee riding association adopted a motion denouncing the new law as continuing to permit "the arbitrary banning of one of Canada's official languages" on public signs, billboards and buses, and asked the federal government to invoke disallowance.

Henderson added: "Liberals don't believe in freedom of choice in education and want to starve English schools ... Liberals say Quebecers are free to remake the map of Canada any time they please ... Liberals think defying the United Nations and banning English from the roadsides of Quebec is acceptable."

As for the dispute over how many candidates Equality should run in the election, Henderson said the number has not yet been settled.

In any event, he said Libman had "never ever threatened to resign before over what we all thought was a significant, but relatively minor, tactical difference."

CZF launches youth council to draw students

By AMY SATTIN

TORONTO — The first-ever cross-Canada Zionist youth movement has been jump started by the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF).

The Zionist Youth council, a directing body made up of 13 young adults from across the country, was approved at last month's CZF national convention in Toronto. The group has since elected representatives from six regions and penned a draft mission statement.

The idea of a national youth movement was "enthusiastically received" by convention delegates, said Linda Israel, national director of CZF's Youth and Hechalutz department.

The Council grew out of a pre-convention Shabbaton attended by more than 65 students. Participants wanted to create a non-religious, non-political youth movement to promote Zionism.

Natalie Amar was one of those participants. A graduate student in political science at McGill University and seven-time visitor to Israel, Amar will now be one of three representatives of the Council's Eastern region. She said the Council will allow her to work with like-minded people.

"Zionism for me is really important," she said in a phone interview. "You make what's important fit in" to your life.

Amar will be working with Karen Cohen, the representative of Montreal's Sephardic community, to plan a regional Shabbaton for late January. She said she expects activites like the Shabbaton will "bring people in who want to be involved, but who are turned off by the 'regular' Jewish community."

CZF's Israel said the movement should appeal to both "unaffiliated" young adults and those who already belong to Zionist organizations like Habonim-Dror and Mizrachi. She said the special appeal lies in the cross-Canada nature of the Council.

"There are many campuses, like some out West for example, that feel isolated. They want to feel connected." Both regional and national programs are in the works.

Arts student

Leslie Satran attended the November Shabbaton on her own. Now the first-year University of Winnipeg arts student is representing Manitoba and Saskatchewan on the Council. She said the Council is a good way for Jewish youth in Canada to understand each other.

"It's a no-lose situation," she said. "It's important for those in Toronto to see how a small Jewish community like Winnipeg works."

A graduate of Joseph Wolinski Collegiate, Satran will now restart the Youth Organization For Israel (YOFI) with some of her former classmates. YOFI enables students aged 18 to 20 to join in Zionist programs, she said.

Bronfman fellowships available

ALBANY, N.Y. — Applications are now available for the 1994 Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel.

The fellowships, now in their eighth year, offer an opportunity for 25 students entering Grade 12 to spend five weeks in Israel this summer. Fellows will be chosen on the basis of character, intellectual interests, special talents and leadership qualities. In the competitive selection process, merit, not financial need, is the standard for selection.

While living in Jerusalem, the Bronfman Fellows participate in seminars and dialogues with a diverse rabbinic faculty, representing a wide range of Jewish perspective. They explore Jewish text against the background of Israel's land, culture and customs. In addition, Fellows will meet with some of Israel's prominent political and literary figures to examine contemporary issues in light of Jewish history and tradition.

The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel is a program of the Samuel Bronfman Foundation, Inc., which is chaired by Edgar M. Bronfman.

The Bronfman Youth Fellowships program begins on July 5, 1994 with a two-day seminar in New York City. The students return from Israel on August 11, 1994. All meals will be kosher, and Shabbat activities will be in the spirit of the day. All expenses are covered by the program.

High school students in the United States and Canada who will be in Grade 12 in the fall of 1994 may obtain application forms and detailed information by writing: The Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel, 17 Wilbur St., Albany, N.Y., 12202, or by calling 518-465-6575.

Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Feb. 1, 1994. Finalists will be notified March 1 and finalist interviews will be held during the week of March 13. Names of the 1994 Fellowship recipients will be announced on March 31.

Witnesses sought

NEW YORK — The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) has requested the assistance of the World Jewish Congress in its investigation of Canadian residents who may have been involved in war crimes or crimes against humanity committed during World War II.

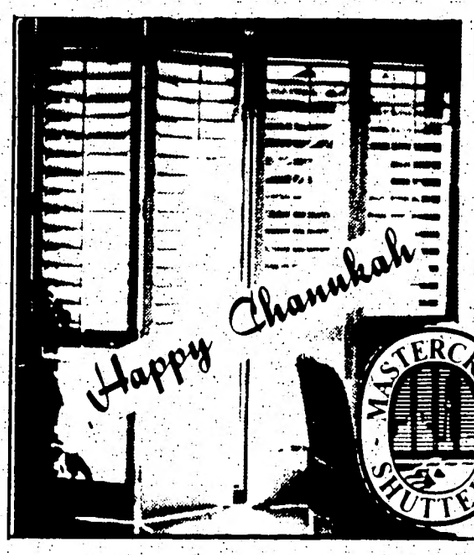
Canadian authorities are presently pursuing investigations regarding crimes committed in Ukraine and Slovakia.

For one series of investigations, they are seeking witnesses who may have direct knowledge of criminal acts which were committed against the population of the Turiysk Rayon, Ukraine, during the German occupation from 1941 to 1942. In particular the RCMP is seeking witnesses who have direct knowledge regarding the ghettoization of Jews in Ozeriani and their subsequent murder in Sushibaba in late summer 1942, the beating of civilians in Svinarin and Ozeriani in 1941 and 1942 and the murder of two Jewish children in a forest outside Svinarin in the summer of 1942.

Another investigation concerns a subject who is alleged to have committed crimes in Kosice, Slovakia (formerly Kassa, Hungary) during the year 1944. In particular, the crimes being investigated include the forcible confinement of persons of the Jewish nationality in the ghetto and at the brick factory camp in Kassa/Kosice and their subsequent deportation to Auschwitz and/or camps in the spring of 1944, as well as any other crimes committed against the Kassa/Kosice ghetto and camp populations.

In pursuit of this investigation, the RCMP is searching for witnesses and requesting the co-operation of persons who may have direct knowledge of the brick factory, or the ghettos of Kassa, or can assist in locating anyone who could provide such information.

Individuals who can be of assistance in these cases are requested to contact Sidney Gruber at the World Jewish Congress — 501 Madison Ave., New York. Telephone: 212-755-5770.



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Canada

CJN Exclusive Victor Borge

Veteran entertainer Victor Borge, who will be 85 in January, is quick-witted both onstage and off.

On a recent weekday morning, the world-famous comedian-pianist, in Toronto to perform at Roy Thomson Hall, visited the Jewish Community Centre (JCC) to see the Judy Ellis Glickman photo exhibit commemorating the Danish Jewish community's 1943 rescue.

Borge, born Borg Rosenbaum in Copenhagen, chatted with photo exhibit volunteers and visitors, his conversation peppered with one-liners and punctuated by frequent bursts of laughter.

"Welcome to Toronto," said a well-wisher. "Are we still in Toronto?" he inquired, referring to the long drive up Bathurst Street from his downtown hotel.

"I saw your picture in the exhibit, and you haven't changed!" marvelled an admirer. Borge glanced down at his chest, pausing for effect. "My tie is different," he noted, deadpan.

"I love your work," said a Grade 8 student from Associated Hebrew Schools. "You're clever," Borge responded enthusiastically. "I like you too.

Borge the cutup is also gracious, even charming, as he demonstrated by obliging a request for a kiss from a female volunteer with not one but two kisses, one on each cheek.

His visit to Toronto marked his first opportunity to see the photo exhibit, which was commissioned by Thanks To Scandinavia, a scholarship fund he co-founded in 1963. (In Toronto the exhibit was sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto.)

Especially for the occasion, Borge wore cufflinks bearing biblical quotations in Hebrew. His attire, from his dark blue blazer to his spotless tasseled loafers, was testament to his attention to detail.

That night, on stage, he performed for two and a half hours, receiving two standing ovations. His unique brand of comedy includes physical humor, comments on the idiosyncracies of language, and classical piano music, at which his skill is apparent even in incomplete pieces ("I don't play endings well," he lies).

While Borge was at the JCC, he spoke with CJN reporter Frances Kraft.

CJN: *Before you left Denmark in 1940, you were already a well-known performer. How did you find the courage to publicly criticize Nazis as part of your act in wartime Europe?*

Borge: In those days [the Nazi threat] was hanging over our heads, but nobody dreamed that it would go to the extent that it did. Denmark was a democracy, and there was no limitation of what one could do or say so long as it was within [good] taste. That is the way I have operated on stage. Those were the things people talked about.

CJN: *How did audiences receive those routines?*

Borge: They laughed as much as they would laugh today. I said, "What's the difference between a Nazi and a dog? The Nazi lifts his arm." Of course it was funny, and everybody understood the hint.

CJN: *Did you realize how bad things would get?*

Borge: Yes. I used to say that Churchill and I were the only two who saw it coming, because everybody else said it can't happen here. But there were no borders in that respect.

CJN: *How were you personally affected by Nazism?*

Borge: There were Nazi sympathizers and there was a Nazi party in Denmark, though small, and sometimes in the audience they would make loud remarks interfering with my routine. I was always on the front page [of the Nazi newspaper]. There were warnings — "Be careful, because you don't know what can happen to you" and "Jew bastard", the whole thing.

One day I was walking and a couple of fellows lifted me up by my arms, but I was too fast for them. We were walking along the lake in Copenhagen, and I pushed one in the water, and the other one (here Borge pauses to laugh at the memory)... tried to fish him out. I ran home, and from then on I never walked out alone. That was about a year and a half or two years before the invasion [of Denmark by Germany].

I was convinced the invasion would come, so I had arranged [to appear at] a very popular theatre in Sweden.

CJN: *After you left Denmark, did you know what was happening to the Jewish community there?*

Borge: I knew while I was in Sweden. While I was at the theatre in Sweden, Denmark was invaded. That was in 1940. For a couple of years nothing happened to the Jews. I came [to the United States] in 1940. I knew from radio and from personal contact [what was happening in Denmark] — there were still people coming, travelling.

CJN: *What were your ties to the Jewish community when you were living in Denmark?*

Borge: That is very difficult to describe in a few words. I went to the synagogue. I went to religious school for a couple of years as a child. I was bar mitzvahed, and I just stuttered through the things I had to say. My parents were not religious. I never knew my grandfathers — I was a latecomer, very late. My father was 62 when I was born.

I loved to go to the synagogue on the High Holidays. Copenhagen has a very beautiful synagogue, and I loved the performance, I loved the theatricality. I did not understand a word of it and I came home, as a child, and tried to do the same thing. I took the bedspread around me as a tallis, and my father's hat, and I tried to do the formalities.

And I still go to the synagogue when I'm in Copenhagen, a couple of times I've been there on the Holidays. And I still love the spectacle.

I don't understand religion, but I am convinced that without it the world would have been worse than hell, because the nations and people behaved out of fear for the hereafter.

CJN: *Tell me about your early experiences in the States.*

Borge: In 1940 I got on the Bing Crosby program. That was the first thing that happened in the United States — the Kraft Music Hall. I couldn't speak English at that time, and I went to California and lived on 25 cents a day, because that was the last money I had that I could get out of Sweden.

I was seeking a job at a gas station near NBC studio — the radio station — and they couldn't use me because I couldn't speak English. I thought it was kind of funny, you know. How much English do you have to know to fill up a car with gas? But two weeks later I was on the Bing Crosby program, by a miracle. I spoke to 30 million people, which was the number that listened every week. I was on that show for 52 weeks, and I was chosen after the first program as the comedy find of the year on the radio, by the commentator.

Then after the first show, I went over to the gas station with an interpreter. I asked him to say that I knew I couldn't be used to fill up cars, but I had just spoken to 30 million Americans who were dying laughing. It's a funny story, and it's true.

My routines had been translated to English, and I was standing there reading and hearing people screaming and laughing, and I didn't know what I was saying. I just read it.

That was my debut, and from then on, every week I had five or six minutes on each show, and I told the audience about Scandinavia and a little about Denmark.

CJN: *What kind of feedback did you receive on your remarks about Scandinavia?*

Borge: Strangely enough, in later years when I went to Denmark I met many Americans visiting Denmark as tourists, who came over to me and said, "You know, it's thanks to you that we are in Denmark, because we listened to you every week on the Bing Crosby program. You always had something funny to say, and we felt that your country must be a very charming country because of what you said about it."

When I was on the Pontiac show on television, the idea was not that they would sell Pontiacs after the show, but that whenever people saw a sign or the name Pontiac they would smile, because it was connected with a pleasantry. They realized the value, I think, in advertising, that you associate the product with something pleasant.

My product at that time, personally, was Denmark.

I am against fanaticism, and I didn't want to be fanatical about the Danes either. That's why I told you the story about the Danes who were not so Danish in that respect — the Nazi Danes, and there were plenty of them. There still are, — not just in Denmark, in Italy now.

It's a very difficult subject. Nobody seems to do anything about it, and whatever they do about it doesn't change it, it just delays it. I haven't seen a cure for hate. I can't believe something I don't see.

CJN: *It's often said that comedians are very serious people. How would you describe yourself?*

Borge: I don't describe myself.

CJN: *You are a very accomplished musician. Do you feel that you've given up anything, musically, with the type of performances you do?*

Borge: No, I've gained, because [otherwise] I might not have reached what I would have been looking for. Few people do, even the biggest and the greatest, because there's always a summit. When you reach the summit, there's one behind it.

CJN: *What is it you were looking for?*

Borge: I wasn't looking for anything, but I have reached something that has made me happy.

CJN: *Is there something particularly Danish about your humor, in the same way that British humor is uniquely British?*

Borge: No, I don't think so. When I talk about Denmark, I talk about the world that was when I grew up.

Denmark is a very well organized country — the Denmark I lived in. I think it was one of the churchmen who said in the old days that Denmark is a country where few have too much and fewer too little. There were not the big ups and downs that we see here in the large countries. The farms were evenly distributed, education was evenly distributed, and so on.

[As for] Danish humor in comparison to English humor, [each] satirizes what people are familiar with [in their own country].

CJN: *How would you define humor?*

Borge: [Someone] once said that humor is overthrow on expectancy, that things don't turn out the way you expect. A person walks down the street and slips on a banana peel — that's terrible, but it can also be very funny. Expectancy that is not fulfilled is the whole basis for humor.

At my father's funeral, my mother was heartbroken. Some of his colleagues from the [Royal Danish Philharmonic] orchestra carried his casket, and they were all wearing silk hats. The flute player was very tall and skinny and had a hat that was too big, and the French horn player had a hat that was too small, and they looked absolutely hilarious. I said to my mother "If Father could open his eyes now and see this, he would die anyhow," and my mother laughed.

The cure, the power of humor, if used right, is immense. [Laughter] activates part of your body that is only activated when you cry. You need it.

CJN: *How did you come to co-found Thanks To Scandinavia in 1963?*

Borge: We actually started with Thanks To Denmark [in 1962], then as the stories [about World War II] became better known, we realized that without Sweden there wouldn't have been any escape, and stories about heroic deeds in Norway and Finland began to come out in books and newspapers.

It bothered me that only the Danes were being praised, [so] we started Thanks To Scandinavia. (The fund has since provided over 1,000 scholarships and grants to Scandinavian students, researchers, doctors and educators at American colleges and medical centres.)

The great thing about the Scandinavian countries is that their governments stood behind the rescue. That made the countries: the church, the monarchy and the people.

There are also rotten eggs in probably every basket, but the good should not suffer because there are rotten eggs. Therefore I say that it is as important to thank the ones who did great deeds in other countries.

In Romania, there were great efforts to save Jews. Even in Germany, there were decent Germans who saved their Jewish friends at the cost of lives.

CJN: *Do you have a philosophy by which you try to live your life?*

Borge: Yes. I am not overly impressed [by accomplishments] because I know that nobody does any more than the capacity which is invested in them. You can't be tall — physically tall — because you want to.

Queen Elizabeth II greets Dorothy and Cyril Reitman of Montreal at a reception in St. James's Palace.

Queen attends kosher reception of Commonwealth Jewish Council

LONDON — Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip received members of the Commonwealth Jewish Council at St. James's Palace for a kosher reception during a recent Council conference here. King Constantine and Queen Anna Marie of Greece also played host.

"She was very animated and very attractive in person," said Dorothy Reitman of Montreal, chair of the Council's Canadian committee.

Approximately 30 members of the Council attended the reception, as well as members of the London Jewish community. Reitman said that as they entered the palace, an orchestra composed of young British Jews played *Yerushalayim Shel Zahav*.

British Labor MP and Council president Greville Janner jokingly asked the Queen if her crown was very heavy, Reitman said. "She said it weighs four pounds, like having a salmon on your head."

Jewish continuity was the theme of the three-day conference which brought together representatives of Jewish communities in Hong Kong, Jersey, Kenya, Malta, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"Great concern was expressed by the delegates as to the increasing rate of intermarriage and it was agreed that combatting this disturbing dynamic must be a focus of Jewish communal activities," Reitman said.

In its resolutions, the Council welcomed the normalization of diplomatic relations between Israel and Zimbabwe, and called upon other Commonwealth nations to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel immediately.

The conference urged the British government to grant the right of residence in the U.K. to Hong Kong citizens who will not be granted Chinese citizenship after 1997.

Delegates were also concerned by the resurgence of right-wing extremism in Germany and what they termed official attempts to erase the memory of crimes perpetrated during the Hitler period. They called on the German authorities to promote and support all efforts to perpetuate the memory of Nazi atrocities and of the Holocaust.

The Council's 1993 award was presented to Walter Hirsh, former New Zealand race relations concilliator and human rights commissioner.

The 1995 biennial conference is scheduled to take place in New Delhi, India.

Other Canadians attending the conference were Marsha and Edward Bronfman, Linda and Gary Goldberg, Marvelle and Murray Koffler, Jill and Joel Reitman, all of Toronto; and Lilly and Paul Ivanier of Montreal.

NAME GAME

There is a story in almost every Jewish surname and Toronto lawyer FRED M. CATZMAN has been researching their origins over the past few years. Mr Catzman reports on his research in The CJN.

BLITZER

Wolf Blitzer became well known throughout the world for his commentary for CNN during the Persian Gulf War. The name appeared to be related to Donner and Blitzen, thunder and lightning in German. While this may better characterize his delivery, I have concluded that the origin of his surname is less illuminating. I trace it to Bel't-sy, a district centre in Bessarabia.

RATNEY

One of Toronto's pioneer chartered accountants was the late Moses Ratney, a big man with a big heart who was a leader in B'nai B'rith.

The name probably derives from the village of Ratni (near Radom) or less likely from Ratno (near Kovel).

I regret that I did not ask him while he was alive.

At
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World

NOW IT'S THE LEFT-WING

Its not only members of Israel's right-wing that hold demonstrations about the peace process these days. Following the recent killings of two of Hamas' most wanted terrorists by Israel's security forces and a corresponding upsurge in violence throughout the territories, the leftist pressure groups "Gush Shalom" and "Women In Black" demonstrated outside the headquarters of Israel's defence establishment in Tel Aviv. [IPPA photo]

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Proverbs Chapter 21 Verse 3

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All applications must be received by January 21, 1994

Clinton meeting with Assad concerns some Jewish leaders

WASHINGTON (JTA) — News that U.S. President Bill Clinton will meet next month with Syrian leader Hafez Assad has caused concern among some Jewish leaders.

But others in the community are taking a position similar to that of the Clinton administration, which views a meeting with Assad as furthering a comprehensive peace settlement in the region.

Following a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher earlier this month, Assad said he would grant exit permits to Syria's remaining 1,350 Jews by the end of December, leaving North American Jewish leaders pleased but skeptical.

Assad also reportedly agreed to allow the U.S. congressional mission to investigate the fate of missing Israeli servicemen, including navigator Ron Arad.

In Israel, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin called both developments an important step forward and a hopeful sign.

The Jewish leaders voicing doubts say that to earn a meeting with Clinton, Assad must live up to his promises to allow free travel for Syrian Jews and to allow the congressional delegation to look into what happened to the missing Israeli soldiers.

In addition, there is concern that it would be inappropriate for a presidential meeting with a leader whose country remains on the State Department's list of state sponsors of terrorism.

"I hope Assad backs the promises he's made," said Judy Feld Carr, chair of Canadian Jewish Congress's National Task for Syrian Jews.

"But I recall that such a commitment was made before by Assad, and no exit permits were issued. My only consolation is that this is the first time a tentative time factor has been given," Carr told *The CJN*.

"I feel confident that President Clinton won't proceed with the meeting until all the Jews have their exit permits," said Alice Harary, president of the Council for the Rescue of Syrian Jews.

The remnants of Syrian Jewry have been awaiting permits to leave the country since last year, when the Syrian government first announced the community would be able to travel freely, prompting some 2,600 Jews to leave.

But in recent months, only a trickle of Jews has been able to leave, prompting the Clinton administration and members of Congress to urge Assad to let Syrian Jews go.

Harary said that she was "hopeful they'll all be out by the end of the month," and that the Clinton administration had placed a high priority on the issue.

But she said that as of last week, nothing had happened in Syria in the wake of Assad's recent announcement.

About 400 of the 1,350 Jews in Syria have U.S. visas, leaving about 950 in need of exit permits, Harary said.

While in Syria, Christopher said the Clinton-Assad meeting would "help to put in place a vital cornerstone in our efforts to build a comprehensive, just and lasting peace."

One of the goals of his trip was to re-engage Syria in the peace process, and Christopher said at a news conference in Damascus that the Syrians would be returning to the Washington-based talks.

Syria's future participation in the stalled negotiations had been in doubt because Syria and Israel are locked in a disagreement over definitions of the shape of a future peace between the two countries, and an Israeli withdrawal from at least part of the Golan Heights.

The United States could be playing a more active role in the Israeli-Syrian talks than it did in the talks between Israel and the Palestinians, said Warren Eisenberg, director of B'nai B'rith's International Council.

"Syria represents a different case," Eisenberg said, with "wider stakes."

Christopher announced at the Damascus news conference that the Clinton-Assad meeting was scheduled to take place in mid-January in Geneva.

It would be the first meeting between the two. Assad, who has led Syria for more than two decades, met with some of Clinton's predecessors, most recently George Bush.

Christopher would not say whether Syria had made any pledges in return for his meeting with Clinton, nor whether the United States had made promises to Assad.

Some Jewish officials said a meeting between Clinton and Assad could result in progress on the Israeli-Syrian negotiating track, and thus benefit the overall peace process.

"This is a first step that probably needs to be taken at this stage," Rep. Eliot Engel (D-N.Y.) said in an interview.

Engel spearheaded a recent letter from 57 House colleagues to Christopher urging the secretary to press the Syrians on behalf of the Syrian Jews.

Jerusalem Post: Israel to withdraw

By STEVE RODAN
The Jerusalem Post

JERUSALEM — The government is secretly drafting plans for a virtual return to the 1967 borders and the establishment of a Palestinian state, proposals that for the first time are being considered by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, *The Jerusalem Post has* reported.

Senior government sources, disputing Rabin's insistence that he refuses to consider these issues until at least 1996, say the government has drafted numerous plans for a withdrawal which would include Gush Etzion and the Jordan Valley, with only Jerusalem and minor border changes in Latrun and Samaria excepted.

Deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin is the coordinator of these plans, working with the approval of Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, according to these sources.

Both men want the plans implemented before the right-wing opposition can foil them.

Peres and Beilin are urging for the negotiations on a permanent settlement to begin after the establishment of a Palestinian council on self-rule, scheduled for July.

A three-month investigation by *The Jerusalem Post*, published in *The Post*'s magazine last week, has revealed that Rabin has not ruled out these plans.

Sources close to the prime minister say in private conversation Rabin has acknowledged the inevitability of a Palestinian state and his mission is to ensure that it will not harm the Jewish state.

"The phrase he uses is that the level of Palestinian independence is dependent on the level of security for Israel," a Rabin source says.

Through interviews with scores of senior Israeli, U.S. and PLO officials, parliamentarians, negotiators and diplomats, *The Post* has learned of the government's conceptions, which have already been shown to several senior ministers.

The proposals include the following:

The government is preparing to begin negotiations on the permanent status of the territories after the establishment of the Palestinian self-rule council, which is scheduled for July.

The government is ready to withdraw from nearly all of Judea, Samaria and Gaza. The exceptions are several Jewish neighborhoods in Jerusalem and minor border changes in Latrun and Samaria.

Gush Etzion and the Jordan Valley, areas the Labor Party declared it would keep under any future settlement, are not to be retained.

The government is ready to permit the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Senior ministers have begun secret talks with PLO representatives on the future of Jerusalem.

The government is ready to dismantle some settlements and raise money from the U.S. to buy out many of the 130,000 settlers in the territories. The price for this is estimated by the Foreign Ministry at $10 billion.

The prime minister has tried to shroud the issue in secrecy, government sources say. He has refused to answer questions on the permanent settlement in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, which until this year regularly discussed sensitive information.

Parliamentary sources say Rabin has even prohibited the head of the General Security Service from presenting his agency's plans for 1994 to the intelligence subcommittee of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, for fear that parliamentarians would learn what the government has in mind for Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

During the past few weeks, several ministers have seen the Beilin-Peres proposals of the permanent settlement. Although these ministers all support some form of territorial compromise in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, they recall being stunned by the plans for a full withdrawal.

"When Peres spoke to me about what he had in mind, I nearly fell off my chair," a senior minister says.

At the same time, Rabin has approved the establishment of a Labor Party committee that will outline government alternatives for a permanent settlement with the Palestinians. The committee includes senior officials such as Beilin, Deputy Defense Minister Mordechai Gur and Labor Party parliamentarians Ori Orr, Ephraim Sneh and Gedalia Gal.

"Rabin approved this immediately," says a committee source. "He just said make sure that Shimon (Peres) is of the same position. Peres actually was not wild about the idea."

U.S. diplomatic sources say Israel has made President Bill Clinton aware of the government's conception of a permanent settlement.

The sources say Rabin raised the issue of the Jewish settlements during his meeting with Clinton last month in Washington. The discussions continued during last week's Middle East tour by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Clinton, the sources say, had sought a pledge from Rabin that some of the settlements, particularly small communities in isolated areas, would be dismantled. They say the U.S. is willing to help finance the resettlement of Jews from the territories.

"Clinton does not want this to be an obstacle to a settlement," a U.S. source says. "So, we are empathetic to the issue [of compensation]."

Pardon for Pollard not expected: reports

NEW YORK (JPFS/JTA) — American supporters of Jonathan Pollard, as well as those in Canada, are being urged to flood the White House with faxes, letters and calls in a last-ditch attempt to persuade President Bill Clinton to commute Pollard's sentence.

The clarion call to Pollard's supporters followed a statement last week by U.S. administration officials that Clinton's advisers are recommending the president not grant clemency to Pollard.

Despite an intense lobbying campaign by much of North American Jewry in recent months, the officials said it appears likely that Clinton will accede to the recommendations against clemency from within his own administration.

Federal prosecutors in the U.S. Justice Department and Central Intelligence Agency analysts are reportedly the most vocal forces opposing a presidential pardon for Pollard, the former civilian naval analyst who has been serving a life sentence for spying on behalf of Israel.

Last week's announcement of the likely presidential position was oddly worded, with administration officials suggesting Clinton had not yet made his final decision, and could still be influenced by protests.

Pollard supporters are interpreting that statement to mean Clinton would like to free Pollard before his earliest 1995 parole date, but needs a massive outpouring of public support to buttress such a decision against opposition from within his own administration.

One supporter understood the equivocal announcement as "a fairly obvious and helpful request for bursts of protest in support of Jonathan Pollard."

Theodore Boutrous, one of Pollard's lawyers, blasted the announcement.

"The prosecutors agreed in 1987 not to seek a life sentence," he said. "They recognized then that the information he passed to Israel did not warrant a life sentence. How can they possibly argue the opposite now?

Boutrous urged Pollard supporters to swamp the White House with protests.

He said a presidential pardon for Pollard coming at this critical juncture in the Middle East peace process would be a welcome American gesture.

"It is the ideal time to heal this wound in the Israel-U.S. relationship," he said.

* * *

Whenever senior Clinton administration officials met with Jewish organizational leaders in recent months, a question was often put to the Jews: What is the sentiment in the community concerning Pollard?

It was an important question for Clinton, who received 88 per cent of the Jewish vote in the 1992 elections, and who was trying to decide whether to grant a request for clemency for Pollard.

As the Justice Department conducted the official review of the Pollard case, the president has had to weigh the inevitable opposition from intelligence agencies against the arguments and political clout of the Jewish community which supported him overwhelmingly.

Within the Jewish community, freedom for Pollard has often appeared to be as self-evident a cause as freedom for Soviet Jewry, judging by coverage of the issue in Jewish newspapers, sermons in synagogues and appeals from Israeli and local leaders.

But for the White House — and indeed, for the organized Jewish community — the view has not been that clear.

A 1991 poll by the American Jewish Committee showed that not much more than half of American Jews had heard of Pollard, and no more than 22 percent thought Jewish organizations should campaign to reduce his sentence.

And those with whom the White House is most accustomed to dealing on the issue have taken the lowest profile.

The Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, an umbrella group that includes groups strongly advocating for Pollard as well as those who have maintained it is not an issue for the Jewish community, has taken no stand.

Its rationale is that the mandate of the conference is to deal with international issues.

The umbrella group dealing with domestic American concerns, the National Jewish Community Relations Advisory Council (NJCRAC), voted last February to take no stance regarding Pollard.

Those groups that represent specific constituencies have increasingly come on board.

(In the U.S., those who have come out in support of Pollard include the rabbinic organizations of the Reform, Conservative and Orthodox branches of Judaism, and about half of local Jewish community relations councils.)

Little surprise, then, that unnamed White House officials told the *New York Times* last week that Clinton wanted to hear from American Jews on the issue.

The *Times* reported that Clinton "had yet to make up his mind and that protests following reports of his opposition to clemency could alter the dynamics of his decision making."

The article indicated that Clinton is inclined to decide against commutation of Pollard's sentence.

For supporters of Pollard, these remarks on the eve of the Justice Department's conclusion of the review, set off a flurry of lobbying.

Seymour Reich, president of the American Zionist Movement, and Rabbi Avi Weiss, president of the Coalition for Jewish Concerns-Amcha, said they were mobilizing their constituencies to inundate the White House with calls, letters and faxes.

SEEKING SUPPORT

Tami Arad, the wife of Israeli navigator Ron Arad, was was allegedly captured six years ago in Lebanon, is seen with Cardinal John O'Conner and her daughter Yuval before their meeting in New York. Arad is seeking international help regarding the plight of her husband who is believed to be still alive. [RNS/Reuters photo]

Pollard 'angered' by newspaper columnist

TORONTO — Jonathan Pollard has taken issue with a Dec. 2 column in the *Toronto Sun* that described him as an "ugly traitor," an anti-Semite's dream and someone who got what he deserved.

Pollard's Canadian lawyer, Bert Raphael of Toronto, spent 20 minutes on the phone with his client last Friday. Raphael told the *CJN* Pollard was "so angered" at the *Sun* column, written by Eric Margolis.

The column, mailed to Pollard at his prison in Butner, N.C., said the damage he inflicted on U.S. strategic interests was "enormous and still gravely hurts the U.S. today." Pollard's "well-deserved fate ... brought shame and danger on Jews everywhere."

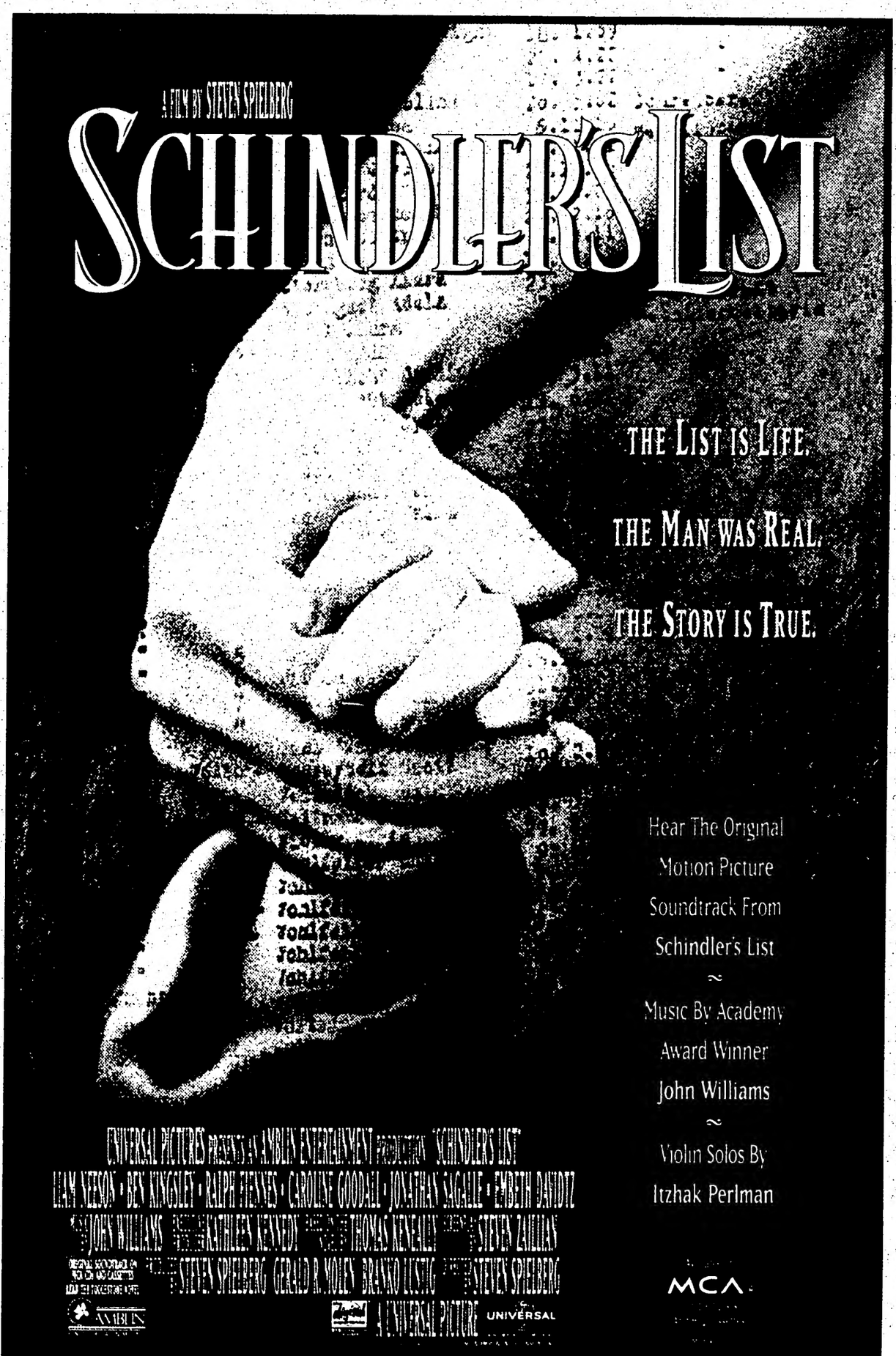
At least three letters of protest have been mailed to *Sun* editor John Downing, Raphael's among them.

Pollard's Toronto-based spokeswoman and fiancee, Elaine Zeitz, sent the *CJN* a note refuting almost every fact on which Margolis based his column.

According to Raphael, Pollard also said he feels "let down" by the Israeli leadership, as well as by much of American Jewish communal leadership.

Pollard apparently feels "abandoned" by the major American organizations, either for not dealing with his plight at all or for usurping the role of rabbis and synagogues.

"He feels these [organizations] are non-democratic because their leaders are not elected," Raphael said. "They speak about morality when rabbis should be doing that."



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World

Vatican ties with Israel expected by end of January

'All that remains is the signing of papers'

NEW YORK (JTA) — The Vatican and Israel are expected to sign an agreement establishing formal diplomatic relations by the end of January, according to sources close to the negotiations.

John Cardinal O'Connor, the Archbishop of New York and moderator of Catholic-Jewish relations for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, told rabbis representing the Synagogue Council of America that he expects the accord to be signed by Jan. 31 "irrespective of the peace process," according to one witness.

"That's important because he's not linking what happens with the PLO and Israel to the Vatican establishing relations" with Israel, said Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, co-chair of the Synagogue Council's interreligious affairs committee, who attended the Dec. 2 meeting with O'Connor.

According to Avi Granot, the counselor for church affairs and ethnic relations at the Israeli Embassy in Washington, "all that remains is the signing of papers" for diplomatic relations to be finalized.

Working committees composed of Foreign Ministry staff from Israel and the Vatican were established in June to hammer out the details that would lead to formal relations.

The Israelis prefer to have an agreement signed by the end of 1993, but the Vatican has been working out "bureaucratic difficulties and has asked for a deadline of January," Granot said.

While the "date has not yet been set, the impression everyone has is that it will not be postponed beyond January," said Granot.

Most of the major issues which had previously posed an obstacle to diplomatic relations have been resolved, and remaining issues will be dealt with by committees after an agreement is signed, he said.

The "premise of the agreement is that whatever outstanding issues remain will be dealt with by the two parties after the establishment of relations," said Granot.

One outstanding issue for which a special committee will be set up is the question of whether Catholic institutions in Israel will pay taxes. Most, but not all, religious organizations in Israel are taxed.

One issue of concern to the Israeli government is maintaining the status quo with other Christian denominations.

To avoid upsetting delicate relationships, "government representatives in Israel are meeting with the leaders of other churches and going over the agreement with the Vatican with them so no one will feel it will damage relations," said Granot.

South Korea announces plan for embassy in Tel Aviv

NEW YORK (JTA) — The government of South Korea will soon normalize relations with Israel, the country's foreign minister has informed a visiting delegation of Jewish leaders.

South Korean Foreign Minister Han Sung-Joon, meeting with three leaders of the American Jewish Committee's Pacific Rim Institute last week in Seoul, said his country would open an embassy in Tel Aviv shortly and then send an ambassador to Israel.

The foreign minister also said his country would expand political, economic and cultural ties with Israel.

He added that South Korea is considering playing an active role, including the providing of financial assistance, in the ongoing Middle East peace process.

The AJCommittee Pacific Rim Institute leaders were in Japan and South Korea between Dec. 1 and 3.

Bruce Ramer, chair of the institute, said the comments of the South Korean foreign minister marked a significant change in that country's behavior toward Israel.

Two years ago, another Pacific Rim Institute delegation visited South Korea and strongly urged the government to allow Israel to reopen its embassy in the South Korean capital.

Israel closed its embassy in Seoul in the late 1970s as part of what it described as a cost-cutting measure.

When Israel sought to re-open the embassy, the government of South Korea opposed the move for more than 10 years. Permission for the embassy's reopening was finally granted last year.

Seoul has never before opened an embassy in Israel. Instead, the South Korean government directed its ambassador to Italy to represent the country's interests in Israel.

Astronaut takes dreidel where no top has gone before

NEW YORK (JTA) — The malfunctioning Hubble Space Telescope wasn't the only thing spinning in the stratosphere.

Astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman was playing a nationally televised game of dreidel Saturday night aboard the space shuttle Endeavor.

This was not the first voyage of Judaica in space.

Hoffman, 48, who was born in Brooklyn and grew up in Scarsdale, N.Y., took mezuzahs into space and said special blessings during his first launch, on the shuttle Challenger in 1985.

For this trip, Hoffman also took a menorah and observed Chanukah on the shuttle, but he could not light candles for obvious safety reasons.

The dreidel belongs to Hoffman's synagogue, Congregation Brith Shalom of Houston. The menorah is his own.

Rabbi Shaul Osadchey of the synagogue had called the Johnson Space Center to inquire if the dreidel-spinning would get any television coverage and time was made for that event, said space center spokeswoman Barbara Schwartz.

"It was something Jeff wanted to do," said Schwartz, adding that "Jeff is very active in community affairs and in his synagogue."

When Hoffman made the first of his four trips into space, he took along a specially designed mezuzah, which orbited the Earth 109 times.

The mezuzah, was donated to the Jewish Museum in New York, contains an inscription from Psalms: "When I consider the heavens, the work of thy fingers, the moon and the stars which thou has ordained."

At the time of his first flight, Hoffman was an active member of Congregation Shaar Hashalom outside Houston, where he moved in 1978 to be close to the space agency.

The astronaut asked his then rabbi, Arnold Stiebel, to fashion a short prayer for him to recite during his first flight.

The prayer, recited in Hebrew, was drawn around "Aleinu":

"Praised art thou, Lord our God, ruler of the universe, who stretches forth the heaven and lays the foundation of the Earth, whose glory is revealed in the heavens above and whose might is manifest in the loftiest part."

Hoffman studied astronomy at Amherst College, astrophysics at Harvard, and worked on X-ray astronomy at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Leicester University in England.

Deportees to return home

TEL AVIV (JTA) — Some 200 Palestinian deportees living for the past year in a tent camp in southern Lebanon are reported to be preparing to return to the administered territories later this month.

A year ago, Israel deported 415 Palestinians to Lebanon after a series of murderous attacks by Muslim extremists within Israel.

The deportees, who were suspected members of the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas and Islamic Jihad movements, have been living in a camp at Marj al-Zahour in Lebanon, some two miles north of Israel's security zone.

On Sept. 9, Israel allowed 181 of the deportees to return to the territories, with the rest to return by the end of December.

Of those still remaining in the tent camp, 16 deportees have elected to stay in Lebanon, fearing extended imprisonment in Israel if they return. A dozen others are reported to have already moved out of the camp to sites elsewhere in Lebanon.

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The News in Brief

Canadian Appeal to Syria

UNITED NATIONS — Canada's ambassador to the United Nations, Louise Frechette, as part of a statement on global human rights abuses, last week said Canada hopes Syria will honor recent "laudable" plans to eliminate barriers to travel abroad by Syrian Jews. Syrian president Hafez Assad announced last week that the country's remaining 1,200 Jews would be allowed to travel by month's end. B'nai Brith Canada sent Frechette a letter of thanks for her remarks.

* * *

Letter Bomb to Pro-Jewish Mayor

VIENNA — The pro-Jewish mayor of Vienna, Helmut Zilk, was seriously injured last week when a letter bomb exploded as he was opening his mail. Israeli leaders Yitzhak Rabin and Shimon Peres sent get-well wishes to Zilk, as did former Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek, a Vienna native. Last month, Zilk and Kollek hosted the opening here of a Jewish museum, a project Zilk promised in 1986 amid reports on then presidential candidate Kurt Waldheim's Nazi past. Bombings aimed at advocates of minority groups have raised concern in Austria about the rise of anti-immigrant sentiment. At least 10 letter bombs have been sent, and authorities believe neo-Nazis are behind the attacks.

* * *

Romanian Jews Concerned

BUCHAREST — A memorial to a Romanian Nazi collaborator has been erected near Bucharest to the dismay of Jewish groups. At least one statue of wartime despot Ion Antonescu has been seen near the capital in recent weeks. During Antonescu's dictatorial rule, from 1940 to 1944, more than 250,000 Jews died in territories controlled by Romania. Several streets and squares throughout Romania have been dedicated to Antonescu in recent years, sparking fears among the approximately 17,000 Jews in the country that anti-Semitism is on the rise.

* * *

Italian Jews Relieved

ROME — The Jewish community here is relieved as candidates supported by Italy's former Communist Party routed the neo-fascists in most municipal elections throughout the country. Tullia Zevi, president of the Union of Italian Jewish Communities, called the defeat of the neo-fascists "significant for all Europe." The runoff elections for the mayors of 129 cities and towns marked the first time since World War II that the Italian Jewish community came out formally on behalf of particular candidates. Jewish groups held rallies and appealed to voters to reject neo-fascist candidates.

* * *

Ties With Laos

UNITED NATIONS — Laos has become the latest country to establish diplomatic ties with Israel. In a ceremony here last week, the Laotian ambassador to the United Nations, Alounkeo Kittikhoun, signed an agreement with his Israeli counterpart, Gad Yaacobi. The foreign minister of Laos plans to visit Israel early next year, and a delegation from Israel's Foreign Ministry will travel to Laos to investigate joint cooperation. Israel now has ties with 133 countries.

* * *

Circus School for Israel?

TEL AVIV — There may be a circus school in Israel soon, following last week's show here by the Russian State Circus. Impresario Victor Kagan confirmed that preliminary agreements for the establishment of an Academy for Circus Arts have been concluded with Goscirque, the Russian government public company. Circus director Andrei Yufin said he and some of his colleagues would be willing to teach at the proposed academy. "I will stay here to work, not to live. My home is in Moscow," he said. Rishon Lezion, Tel Aviv, and Hod Hasharon have been raised as possible sites for the academy.

* * *

AI 'Concerned' Over Violence

OTTAWA — Amnesty International (AI) says it is "gravely concerned" about the continuing killings in the Israeli territories "perpetrated by both Israeli forces and Palestinian groups." In a statement, AI appealed to the Israeli government and armed Palestinian organizations "to respect basic principles of human rights and humanitarian law. Saying it "takes no position on any peace settlement between Israel and the Palestinians," AI called on Israel to "ensure its forces do not perpetrate killings" and on all Palestinian groups "to end immediately attacks against civilians and violence to prisoners."

* * *

U.S. Leaders Investigate MiAs

JERUSALEM — The U.S. Congressional mission that will investigate the fate of the six missing Israeli soldiers will leave for Damascus within the next few weeks, Secretary of State Warren Christopher told the families of four of the MiAs at a meeting in Jerusalem last week. Christopher met with the parents of Yehuda Katz, Zvi Feldman and Zecharia Baumel, missing since 1982, and separately with Tami Arad, wife of navigator Ron Arad, the IDF navigator shot down over Lebanon six years ago. He did not meet with the families of Rahamim Alsheikh and Yossi Fink, whom Arab sources have said are dead.

* * *

U.S. Opposition Grows

WASHINGTON — Jewish opponents of the Middle East peace process, both Israeli and American, appear to be increasingly voicing their concerns to U.S. officials. Last week, a small delegation of activists on the right wing of the American Jewish political spectrum met at the State Department with Thomas Miller, head of the Israel desk. Last month, former members of the Yitzhak Shamir government met with officials in the capital. Herbert Zweibon, one of seven Jewish leaders who met with Miller, said the delegation's goal was to tell the U.S. government that not all American Jews back the peace process.

* * *

Another Company Pays Fine

WASHINGTON — Another American company, F.E. Myers Co., an Ohio manufacturer of industrial hoses, has agreed to pay a fine for allegedly violating U.S. anti-boycott laws. The U.S. Commerce Department announced last week that it was imposing a $65,000 civil penalty on the company for 10 alleged violations of the Export Administration Act relating to the Arab economic boycott of Israel. F.E. Myers allegedly refused to do business with a supplier after learning the supplier was blacklisted. In addition, the firm allegedly provided prohibited information about other peoples' business dealings relating to the boycott. F.E. Myers agreed to pay the penalty but neither admitted nor denied having violated the law.

* * *

Rightist Movements Said on Rise

NEW YORK — Extremist right-wing movements worldwide have gone on the offensive in recent months, significantly increasing their attacks on Jews, says the second in a series of reports of the Tel Aviv University Project for the Study of Anti-Semitism, held in cooperation with the Anti-Defamation League. Dr. Dina Porat, project director at Tel Aviv University, expressed concern at the rise of anti-Semitic violence and vandalism, including damage to Jewish sites, particularly cemeteries, and noted the growing connection between Holocaust denial and anti-Jewish vandalism.

* * *

Belarus Marks Ghetto Liquidation

MINSK — For the first time, the government of Belarus has recognized Jewish victims of Nazism. A recent series of official events marked the 50th anniversary of the liquidation of the Minsk ghetto, in which 100,000 Jews perished. Rabbi Arthur Schneier, president of the New York-based Appeal of Conscience Foundation, took part in the ceremonies at the personal invitation of foreign minister Pyotr Kravchanka.

* * *

Rabin Thanks Bulgarians

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last week thanked the Bulgarian people for saving 50,000 Jews during the Holocaust. "We, the members of the Jewish people, remember and will forever remember the handful who came to our aid," Rabin said in the Knesset in the presence of Bulgaria's president, Zhelyu Zhelev, and his wife, Mariyka. During Zhelev's three-day visit, Bulgaria and Israel signed several economic and commercial agreements. Although Bulgaria allied with Germany at the beginning of World War II and instituted anti-Jewish measures, there were many instances of intervention by leading non-Jewish citizens, including King Boris and prelates of the Orthodox Church, to countermand Nazi demands to deport Jews.

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Beit Halochem Canada Thanks Supporters

Alex Eisen, Chairman of Fundraising for Beit Halochem Canada, Aid to Disabled Veterans of Israel, makes a presentation of donor recognition to the Tefillin Charitable Organization. Their donation, in honour of Cantor Martin and Marilyn Rosenblum, will help equip the new Rehabilitation Centre now under construction in Jerusalem. (l. to r.) Mike Rogow, Ken Bodenstein, Alex Eisen, Marilyn Rosenblum and Cantor Martin Rosenblum.

Advt. Advt.

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34 Kenton Dr.	*Temple Har Zion*	*Canadian Council for Reform Judaism*
TUESDAY		
January 11	God After Auschwitz	Created in God's Image: Interpretations and Implications
N. Toronto Community Centre	*Rabbi Dow Marmur*	*Rabbi Sheryl Nosan*
200 Eglinton West	*Holy Blossom Temple*	*Temple Har Zion*
WEDNESDAY		
January 12	God and the Problem of Evil	A Feminist Response to Traditional Theology
Barbara Frum Library 20 Covington Road (Bathurst & Lawrence)	*Rabbi Michael Dolgin*	*Rabbi Nancy Wechsler*
	Temple Sinai	*Temple Kol Ami*
THURSDAY		
January 13	Jacob's Ladder: Biblical Spirituality	The Mystical Connection
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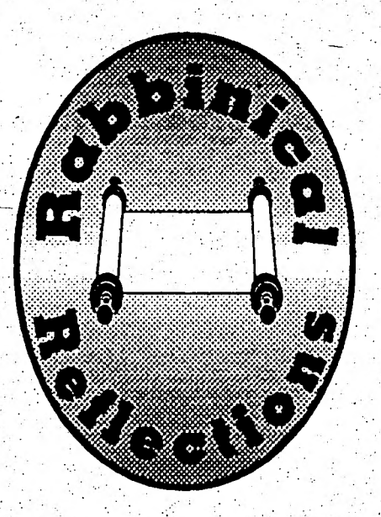
Rabbinical Reflections



By RABBI LAWRENCE PERLMAN

This week's Torah portion contains one of the great scenes of human reconciliation in all of history. Joseph, who has risen to power in Egypt next to the King, stands on the stage of history as his brothers, who sold him into slavery, appeal to him for help. No longer able to conceal his identity, Joseph breaks down into such loud sobs, even the Kings hears him, and Joseph finally tells them who he is.

Amidst the great tension and expectation, there are two people who recede into the background — one because he is not there and the other because his silence is dramatically overplayed. And the Torah, in its unique way, presents the action as if it is insignificant to these two people. The truth is just the opposite.

Who are in the background to heighten the tension? Jacob and Benjamin aren't fully present. The father and the youngest son, though absent from the immediate action are really at the centre of it. How? They are the reason for the meeting. The brothers, afraid to return to their father without Benjamin, plead for his release. Has Benjamin done anything to deserve this end? The Torah goes to some length to make it obvious that he was framed. So, who was responsible? Jacob!

What we are viewing here is the Torah's unique way of communicating the plan of God's judgement. Jacob, the youngest son, steals the birthright from his brother Esau and deceives his father, Isaac. He is hardly an acceptable moral leader. To be forgiven for his sin, the actions he set in motion must come full circle. Jacob, younger than Esau, has to know firsthand the pain of losing his youngest — the one the Torah tells us is dearest to his heart.

The Torah tells us of Benjamin: "And there is a child of his old age, the youngest: his full brother is dead, so that he alone is left of his mother, and his father dotes on him . . . The boy cannot leave his father, if he were to leave him, his father would die." In other words, the full significance of Jacob's misdeeds has to be made known to him before he can rightfully claim the moral status that we expect of our forefathers.

Divine justice, not only in the lives of our forefathers but in our lives as well, is richly woven into the fabric of what we do. The things we do that we regret, or should regret get played out in our lives in ways we hardly expect. Without the ability to change and to redeem ourselves, the psychological and moral forces that exist in our lives come back to play roles that we would never choose.

We have so much to learn from our fathers. If we would only stop seeing them as ideals but rather as real people who have to go through all of life's trials and tribulations like us, then we would genuinely learn something from their lives. You can't claim someone as your forefather until you know what they have gone through. And you can't know what you are going through until you understand the deeds of those who preceded you.

Rabbi Lawrence Perlman is the spiritual leader of Shaare Zion Congregation in Montreal.

Chanukah festivities in Addis Ababa include delicacies from varied cultures

By VIVIENNE MUHLING

ADDIS ABABA — The first night of Chanukah 5754 was one of the most memorable that I have ever celebrated.

I am visiting my brother and his wife, Ben and Denise Barden in Addis Ababa, where, under the aegis of the European Economic Community, Ben is assisting Ethiopia to widen its export horizons.

I had the good fortune of accompanying them to the home of Mr. Kanzan, an Ethiopian businessman who was this year's Chanukah party host. He is a member of the Adenite community who emigrated during that country's political upheaval in the fifties.

There were many children among the approximately fifty people who gathered in a kind of succah in Mr. Kanzan's compound. We ranged in age from babes in arms to the 98-year-old father of our host. Israelis predominated the gathering of Jews from many different backgrounds.

Among the North Americans were Della Dash of San Francisco, who is a UNICEF health worker, and Dr. Rick Hodes of Long Island, who has been in Ethiopia for more than five years under the auspices of the American Jewish Joint Distribution committee. He first worked with the native Ethiopian Jews, the Falashas, most of whom are now in Israel. He now cares for the Falas Mora, who claim to be Falashas coerced into embracing Christianity. They have gathered in Addis Ababa in the hope of making aliyah.

I also met an accountant from Djbouti, a small republic on the Gulf of Aden, and two brothers from Asmera who belong to the Adenite community of Eritrea, a country that recently gained autonomy from Ethiopia.

Among the many Israelis was Ron Barak who is a United Nations employee working with the Economic Commission for Africa.

The Israeli ambassador to Ethiopia, his Excellency, the Honorable Ori Noy lit the first candle in the five-foot high menorah that dominated the scene. Then the diverse group joined him in a rousing rendition of Ma'oz Tsur, after which the Israelis led us in a singsong of several popular Chanukah songs.

The lavish buffet dinner included delicacies from many different Jewish cultures. Platters of crisp potato latkes were side by side with injera and doro wat. Injera, a kind of large leavened pancake, is the staple food of Ethiopia. Doro wat is a festive chicken stew with hard boiled eggs. There was pasta with a rich Italian sauce; middle Eastern style lamb with rice, and vegetable dishes in varying traditions.

It was hard to find room for the desserts that followed. There were sufganiot (traditional Israeli Chanukah doughnuts), creme caramel and tiny, crisply fried Yemenite doughballs dipped in honey.

It was a special honor to have shared in this Chanukah celebration in a country that lays claim to one of the world's oldest Jewish communities, one which came into being during biblical days and can now be considered a part of the Israeli mosaic.

It was particularly moving that so many of us in this diverse gathering were Israelis dedicated to the well-being of others throughout the world.

"NACHAS"
BY MIRIAM LANAIL
I'M KIND OF SORRY TO SEE CHANUKAH IS ENDING, ARENIT YOU?
I SUPPOSE SO.. BUT I DON'T THINK I COULD TAKE ANOTHER NIGHT OF THESE DREIDLE GAMES.
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DISAPPROVE OF THE GAMBLING?
NO... THAT'S NOT IT...
S'VIVON-SOV-SOV-SOV
THUMP
BUMP
BANG
CRASH
MIRIAM LANAIL ©93

Front Line

Israel, Syria must first learn to understand each other

By ALON BEN-MEIR

Israel and Syria must first display a greater understanding and appreciation of each other's national psychological disposition and needs before a comprehensive and equitable peace can be reached.

Under the present circumstances, and as long as the human dimension is missing from the peace process, an agreement based on President Assad's formula of "full withdrawal for full peace" appears remote. While on his current mission, Secretary of State Warren Christopher should focus on creating a psychological atmosphere conducive to comprehensive peace a few months later, rather than push for an agreement now and fail. Here is why.

To the Israelis the Golan has been portrayed, since its capture in 1967, as the most critical strategic territory for Israel's security. Many Israelis were encouraged to settle on the Golan (13,000 did) and build a new life as front line soldiers and pioneers. In terms of peace and in times of war, the Golan, they were told, will remain indispensible to their country's national security. In the course of these years, the Golan became synonymous with national security, creating a deep psychological connection that was constantly reinforeced by successive Labor and Likud led governments. The Rabin government has not prepared the Israelis for total withdrawal and is unlikely to muster a majority in the Knesset to support such a dramatic move.

As the most nationalist of all Arab states, Syria has championed Arab causes and has suffered the brunt of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Recovering the Golan has become nothing less than a national crusade and a symbol of Syrian sovereignty and territorial integrity. For the Syrian people, only total Israeli withdrawal could remove any trace of the 1967 war and its consequences. Thus, no Syrian President, especially Assad, could relinquish a single inch of territory and survive his people's wrath.

The difficulty in reconciling these highly charged and conflicting positions is rooted in the absence of the human dimension — the day-to-day interaction, appreciation of each other's feelings and concerns. This lack of "human relations" between the Israeli and Syrian delegates has stiffened their attitiudes and often made it impossible for them to relate to one another on the simple human plane.

Unlike the Israeli-Syrian formal negotiations held over the past two years under the spotlight of the media, Israelis and Palestinians have had daily contact since 1967, and there have been secret and not-so-secret communications and trade relations between Israel and Jordan over the same time period. These daily human encounters have contributed immeasurably to the conclusions of their two respective separate agreements.

Furthermore, in 1977 Egypt's president Anwar Al-Sadat's dramatic journey to Jerusalem transformed, in one stroke, the Israeli-Egyptian relationship. It was the "human face" that was put on his quest for peace that made Sadat's peace overture so compelling and credible, creating a sense of trust and leaving an indelible mark on every Israeli.

Assad's formula of "full withdrawal for full peace" offers the only viable solution that could, eventually, satisfy Israel and Syria's national security and human needs. Secretary Christopher, however, should persuade Assad to act on two fronts while leaning on Israel to respond accordingly:

First, Syria should limit its territorial claims to what Syria's foreign minister Farouk Al-Sharaa asserted in his October 4th speech to the U.S. General Assembly: "The withdrawal of Israel from all the occupied Golan and from the Lebanese lands." Syria must assume that Israel would eventually be persuaded to give up all of the Golan. It has already conceded Gaza and has no territorial claims against Lebanon, but the same will not apply to the West Bank. Although it is understandable that Syria does not want to appear to have abandoned the Palestinian front, Assad must not make the "liberation of all Arab lands" including all of the West Bank the prize for peace with Syria. Israel certainly will not withdraw entirely from the Golan until Syria forsakes any other Arab territorial claims with the exception of southern Lebanon.

Second, Assad, who has demonstrated an incredible political savvy must now tune in to the Israeli public and carefully gauge the people's sentiment and political pulse. Nothing will moderate the Israeli position on the Golan more than a meeting between Assad and Rabin. Now that peace with Israel is no longer taboo, Assad could follow Sadat's example without major personal or political risks. Sadat did not seek, nor receive, a prior commitment from Prime Minister Begin to relinquish all of Sinai before taking his historic journey. Addressing the Knesset, Sadat made Egypt's territorial claims clear, and he did not deviate from it until Egypt recovered the last inch of territory.

A meeting between Assad and Rabin be it held in Cairo, Rabat, Damascus or Jerusalem, would demonstrate Assad's willingness to enter the stage of reconciliation. This would send the Israelis an unmistakable message, indicating Assad's desire to hear the Israelis first-hand and also to be heard as a leader bent on peace but unable to compromise on a single inch of Syrian territory.

Israeli and Syrian contemporary history is marred by bloody conflict, enmity, mutual fear and distrust. These feelings and attitudes are basic human feelings, and cannot be erased by formal talks and public declarations, no matter how well intended. Both the Israeli and the Syrian people are yearning for a peace of reconciliation. They want to believe each other's leaders but first they must see their human side.

Dr. Alon Ben-Meir is professor of International Relations at the New School for Social Research, New York, he has just published his fourth book on the Middle East A Framework for Arab-Israeli Peace, (Robert Publishing Group, St. Louis MO).

Mythical spymaster was refugee from Nazi Germany

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

The spymaster upon whom British author John Le Carre supposedly modelled the sinister character of Karla in his celebrated novels was convicted in Bonn last week of treason and bribery and sentenced to six years in prison.

Markus (Misha) Wolf, 70, was head of East Germany's foreign intelligence service from 1953 until his retirement in 1986. During the Cold War, before the dissolution of East Germany in 1990 and the Soviet Union in 1991, he was one of the most mythical figures behind the so-called Iron Curtain. Until he was photographed in the late 1970s, he was known as "the man without a face."

A Jew whose parents fled Nazi Germany in 1933, Wolf was credited with personally directing some of the most effective spies in the annals of espionage.

His greatest coup was to infiltrate Gunter Guillaume into West Germany in 1956. When Guillaume was unmasked in 1974, he was one of Chancellor Willy Brandt's closest aides.

Himself a refugee from Nazi Germany, Brandt resigned in disgrace, and was replaced by Helmut Schmidt, also a Social Democrat.

Wolf's father, Friedrich, was a physician, a playwright and a Communist. Soon after Adolf Hitler's accession to power, the Wolf family emigrated, along with thousands of Jewish families. But unlike their fellow Jews, the Wolfs headed east, settling in Moscow and accepting Soviet citizenship.

Markus Wolf was a bright, fastidious student, as well as an ardent Communist. After World War II, he returned to Germany as a journalist, and covered the 1946 Nuremberg war crimes trial.

With the formation of the German Democratic Republic (East Germany), Wolf joined its defence ministry. Within several years, he was in charge of foreign spy operations.

East Germany, unlike West Germany, never established diplomatic relations with Israel. Indeed, East Germany remained hostile to Israel almost until the end of its existence.

However, East Germany was sympathetic to the Palestinian cause and maintained strong ties with the PLO. Wolf claims he was not personally involved in the training of PLO cadres on East German soil. But he was doubtless familiar with his government's policy toward the PLO as well as the Arab world.

Wolf, of course, followed the exploits of the Mossad, Israel's spy agency. But he claims he had "no direct or indirect contact whatsoever" with it. Israel, though, "aroused my curiosity in my origins."

After his resignation, Wolf became a mild critic of the repressive East German state he had buttressed for so long, speaking at anti-government rallies, writing polemics and giving lengthy interviews.

On the eve of Germany's reunification in October 1990, Wolf left East Berlin. He found a haven in Moscow, where one of his friends and protectors was KGB chieftain Vladimir Kryuchkov.

From his vantage point in the Soviet Union, Wolf watched developments in the new Germany with mounting concern. German Chancellor Helmut Kohl had begun a concerted campaign to punish the old East German leadership, and Wolf was high on his list.

After the failed hardline Communist coup in Moscow in August 1991, Wolf's days in the now-tottering Soviet Union were numbered. His requests for asylum in Austria and Israel were rejected.

Finding himself something of an outcast in Russia after the collapse of the Soviet Union, Wolf decided to return to Germany to face the music. After a brief imprisonment, he was freed on bail. He lived in Berlin under close court supervision.

Wolf's trial got underway in May 1992 in Dusseldorf. He never disputed his role as East Germany's top spy, but declared that his activities did not constitute treason. How could he be guilty of betraying a state of which he was not a citizen until his own ceased to exist?

As he put it: "To justify a charge of treason on those grounds is so absurd, legally untenable and literally incomprehensible that it goes against common sense."

Wolf characterized his trial as a political farce staged by a vengeful government that had absorbed East Germany. "This court is going to find me guilty," he forecast on the eve of his sentence.

Wolf could have received a maximum of 15 years in jail. But Klaus Wagner, the judge, gave him a suspended sentence of six years, pending an appeal, because he did not have a criminal record, and had been a victim of Nazi persecution.

Wolf's appeal will take anywhere from six months to a year. In the meantime, he will probably do what virtually every celebrity has done of late — write his memoirs.

They should be fascinating.

Pocketbook provides ammunition to challenge Irving

By MAURICE LUCOW

A few years ago a display ad in the local daily newspaper announced that David Irving, "noted historian," would be speaking at a motel here to discuss the Holocaust.

I had heard of Irving's reputation as a Holocaust denier and decided to attend the meeting. Despite the fact that a surly group of skinheads guarded the entrance to the room where Irving was to speak, carefully scrutinizing who was entering, I managed to get in (how I did that is a trade secret!), paid my $10 admission fee and was escorted to the front row.

Irving is a Britisher, with a fairly strong English accent, and spoke at a rapid pace. When he recited HIS facts about Hitler Germany, and put the blame for pogroms and killings of Jews on Himmler and Goebbels, rather than the Fuehrer, members of the audience nodded in agreement because they wanted to be told that Hitler wasn't the evil monster we know he was.

With his racy speaking style and occasional joke thrown in, he was a hit with the audience. He has facts and figures to prove his points and nobody argued with him. Following the meeting, he peddled his hate books at about $25 each and almost everyone bought. A snake oil salesman couldn't have done a better job.

What bothered me for days after was why I didn't try to refute him — to call him a liar and a cheap shyster, who was making a living out of rewriting Nazi history to make it favorable to those who wanted to believe, and to a younger element of neo-Nazis who wanted a sales pitch to latch on to.

But it wasn't only fear that kept me quiet. Quite frankly, I didn't have the facts or logical arguments to talk back — except that I knew and had spoken to a great many survivors in Toronto, Montreal and even here in Victoria, and we had carried their horrifying stories in *The CJN*. Not that I needed convincing about the Holocaust, but a visit to Yad Vashem confirmed everything I had heard.

And yet here was Irving giving his version which, in effect, was a denial that the Holocaust which took six million lives really didn't happen.

Except for the survivors who know and saw what happened, there aren't many of us in Canada who can come up with logical denials to characters such as Irving. And that's why I'm pleased that David Kirk, who taught at McGill and at the University of Waterloo and who currently is a Visiting Scholar at the University of Victoria, has published a pocketbook containing two essays by German writer Eberhard Jackel, which challenge Irving's "findings," and his reputation as an "historian."

Jackel acknowledges that "for years, historians searched for such an order (the mass murder of Jews) and when none was found they turned to other issues. Nevertheless, no serious scholar has concluded that this century's most horrible crime could have been undertaken without Hitler's will or knowledge."

And yet, says Jackel, "now someone has come along, an Englishman yet, who in an otherwise well-regarded book (*Hitler's War*) serves up the thesis" that Hitler didn't give the order to kill. This smart-alecky young man is David Irving. His book raised a furor in the media. Reviews were constantly negative. Oxford University's Hugh Trevor Roper, one of the greatest authorities in this field, calls Irving's methodology defective."

Jackel, a professor of Recent History at the University of Stuttgart in Germany and author of several books on Hitler, takes issue with Irving on a number of points and declares that Irving "merely searches for and collects whatever pieces of information fit his preconceptions."

In his comments on Jackel's essays, David Kirk, who was born in the Rhineland and is a student of the Holocaust, declares that (the essays) "shout that the emperor has no clothes. The emperor, here Adolf Hitler, appears in Irving's portrait of him as a wilful child but without guilt. Jackel's essays warn that the deception, if widely believed, can lead to dire consequences."

In my opinion, Kirk's booklet should be compulsory reading for every Jew — especially Jewish university students who seem to be under continuous attack by Holocaust deniers. The book certainly doesn't have all the answers, but at least it provides a means of talking back to those who claim Hitler was guiltless.

As *Globe & Mail* columnist Robert Fulford notes in his foreword in the book: "During the last 30 or so years, our civilization has grown steadily less concerned with the past and more concerned with the present and future . . . When a large part of the population has lost any sense of history and how it is written, a bizarre thesis like Holocaust denial can flourish. Perhaps the most pressing and painful of the lessons forced upon us by Irving and the Holocaust deniers is that we need to renew our relationship with history."

Fulford says that Holocaust denial, like the Holocaust itself, is without precedent. "No one, not even Joseph Goebbels, has ever produced so large and imaginative a lie."

Fortunately, David Irving has been deported from Canada and it is unlikely he'll be speaking here again in the near future. Nor are his books acceptable. But the Holocaust deniers are using his "history" of the Holocaust as a source, and David Kirk is to be commended for trying to denounce him.

The book, *David Irving's Hitler*, is published by Kirk's small publishing house, Ben Simon Publications, based in Victoria. It retails at $6.95 and distribution is currently under way. Or you can order a copy. The address is PO Box 318, Brentwood Bay, B.C., V0S 1A0.

Editorial/Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

An independent Community Newspaper serving as a forum for diverse viewpoints

Vol. XXXIV, No. 33 (2,679)

Publisher and Proprietor: The Canadian Jewish News, a corporation without share capital.

Head Office: 10 Gateway Blvd, Suite 420, Don Mills, Ont.. M3C 3A1

One-year Subscription Rate in Canada $26.75, including GST.

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Protocols exposed as brazen bunk

It was, as Tancred Golenpolsky aptly put it, "an historic moment." Last month, a court in Moscow ruled that the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* is a bald forgery and that to publish it constitutes an anti-Semitic act. It may seem as if the obvious was stated. But in a world where anti-Semitic sentiments hold sway, every victory counts.

The case began nearly a year ago when Dmitri Vassiliev, the leader of Pamyat, a notorious anti-Semitic group, filed a libel suit against Golenpolsky, editor of the *Jewish Gazette*. Golenpolsky had published a list of anti-Semitic newspapers in Russia, and Pamyat's scurrilous publication was naturally on it. Vassiliev had published excerpts of the *Protocols*, a czarist tract which had been debunked long ago, and thus Golenpolsky had every justification to describe Pamyat as anti-Semitic. Intent on getting free publicity for his crackpot notions, Vassiliev sued Golenpolsky, outlandishly claiming that Pamyat is not anti-Jewish.

To Golenpolsky and his supporters in Russia and abroad, it was of the utmost importance to prevail. Vassiliev's brazen, cynical challenge had to be met, else anti-Semitism would have a field day in a country where the *Protocols* was first published at the turn of this century, and where anti-Semitism has deep, troubling roots.

It was imperative to expose the *Protocols*, a mean-spirited farrago of filthy lies, athough a reputable British newspaper, the *Times* of London, had, in the early 1920s, exposed it as a crass forgery.

Needless to say, anti-Semites ignored the *Times'* scoop, and in Nazi Germany, the *Protocols* was a staple of state anti-Semitism. Anti-Semites in Russian will doubtless disregard the latest verdict, and continue to flaunt the *Protocols* as the gospel truth. But now that it has been exposed, yet again, for what it is, ordinary Russians susceptible to such propaganda may think twice before being fooled by its false allure.

As history shows, the *Protocols* must be continually fought. It has caused too much damage already.

Multi-media extravaganza

The Brooklyn Academy of Music and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City are to be congratulated for serving as a foyer for one of the most creative and imaginative ventures in multi-media esthetics featuring a Jewish theme.

Those two institutions recently featured a music-theatre extravaganza, called *The Cave*, reports the *Christian Science Monitor*. Composed by Steve Reich, with television editing by Beryl Korot, the work pivots around the importance to Israelis, Palestinians and Americans of Abraham and the cave in which he is interred in Hebron.

Material for the unusual mélange of orchestral music, tapes, television interviews and other stagecraft innovations came from videotaped interviews with representatives of the three groups who were asked their views on the significance of Abraham.

The answers to the questions were not communicated as in a talk show but were spliced together with historical accounts of Abraham's saga and his role in the evolution of the Jewish and Islamic religions. This co-ordinated material was then projected on five different video screens dispersed on a three-level scaffold which also served as a platform for live singers and an instrumental ensemble.

David Sterritt reports that the performance was awe-inspiring, due not only to the creative use of multi-media techniques but to the extraordinary vitality of Reich's contemporary classical music, which serves as an artistic umbrella for the important political message conveyed in the work.

Both Israelis and Palestinians interviewed for the video portion of the program speak warmly of the significance of Abraham in their spiritual lives. A note of comedy intrudes when an American interviewee responds to a question about Abraham by referring to Abraham Lincoln.

Reich and Korot understand well the adage that "music has the charm to soothe the savage breast." Using music and other resources of modern theatre to promote advocacy of intercommunity harmony is a welcome development in the arts community.

LEONARD BERNSTEIN REMEMBERED

Jamie Bernstein Thomas (left) and Shirley Bernstein (right), daughter and sister of Leonard Bernstein, unveil a plaque at the dedication ceremony in Jerusalem of Leonard Bernstein Square to mark the third anniversary of the Jewish conductor's death. [IPPA photo]

Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

HE COOKS TOO!

Month after month and year after year, Sheldon Kirshner informs your readers with his most interesting and stimulating articles on the features page, and his incisive analysis and overview of conditions in the Middle East, especially as they pertain to Israel, in Mideast Analysis.

And now your correspondent is even more amazed that he has the culinary ability and time to recommend the recipes for Middle Eastern dishes contained in *The Complete Middle East Cookbook*.

We are very fortunate that *The CJN* has such a talented and versatile writer as a member of its staff.

S. Hodes-Gilbert
Toronto

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JEWS AGAINST QUOTAS

Permit me to respond to some rather silly comments regarding the Reform Party made by Ms. Thobani (president of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women) and by Prof. Irving Abella.

Ms. Thobani castigates the Reform Party for opposing such things as pay equity and employment equity (also known as affirmative action or racial hiring preferences). The purpose of these specious programs was to give certain groups of people preferred status in job applications in an attempt to rectify past injustices.

However, as readers of your newspaper are only too keenly aware, no group can claim to have faced more relentless persecution and injustice for thousands of years than the Jews! Yet Jews have never sought preferential hiring practices for themselves. Jews have vociferously demanded the end of quotas. They have justly demanded hiring and promotion based on merit only. The Jews have long recognized that hiring based not on merit but on race or sex or ethnicity is itself racist. Thus, pay equity and employment equity should be anathema to all Jews. Count me with Preston Manning here.

Prof. Abella is surely aware that the Reform Party does not wish to close the door to immigrants. It does, however, wish to decrease immigration to fit the economic and labor needs of Canada. One can certainly share this belief without being a racist.

Prof. Abella should also be aware that decent and well-meaning people can stand up to feminists and special interest groups and not be racist. These are people who simply refuse to bow to the false god of political correctness. Prof. Abella is certainly aware that the Reform Party espouses small 'c' conservatism not unlike that of numerous Jewish (non-racist) intellectuals of the American neo-conservative movement.

Stephen J. Stern, MD
Ajax, Ontatio

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TORTURE FOR ELDERLY

With regard to Health Ministry directives and reductions in nursing staff which have led to residents of a longterm care institution being left in bed for 24 hours or more, I would like to state that being forced to stay in bed from bedtime one evening through the next day and night is not like a beneficial afternoon nap.

For the frail elderly, it is a cruel form of torture to lie in bed staring up at the ceiling. Because of vision and comprehension limitations, the time cannot be whiled away with a good book, and every minute drags. There is also the very real danger of respiratory infections and bedsores.

Residents of nursing homes and chronic care facilities are utterly dependent upon nurses and nursing aides to get them in and out of bed, in and out of their wheelchairs, take them to the toilet, change their diapers, bath them, feed them, medicate them, keep them safe and secure from themselves and each other. I think that by cutting the nursing staff, our Health Ministry is abdicating its responsibilities to men and women who have worked for their living, paid taxes and raised a generation of Canadians. In their declining years they surely deserves better.

Diana Mingail
Toronto

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DON'T STAY IN SCHOOLS

In Bill Gladstone's article, "Intensive Jewish education seen as key to love of Zionism" (*CJN* Nov. 18), he quotes me in my talk to the Canadian Zionist Federation Convention as saying that: "Out of every 100 Jewish children in Toronto, only 50 per cent at best ever enrol in Jewish schools."

Mr. Gladstone erred with regard to one of the figures I cited. What is true is that only 50 per cent of Jewish children are to be found, at any given time, in Jewish schools, day or supplementary.

In aggregate, 85 to 90 per cent of all Jewish children enrol in, and attend, a Jewish school for at least a period of time. Their intersection with a Jewish institution of learning may be for a 10-month preschool experience only; or for one year on a part-time basis in a non-day school setting. But, the vast majority of Jewish youngsters enrol in a Jewish school — for however brief a time — at some point in their young lives. The problem is that large numbers do not remain.

Rabbi Irwin E. Witty
Executive Director
Toronto Board of Jewish Education

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B.C. LEADS THE WAY

The Social Action Committee of the Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is a committee of volunteer seniors, representing 2,500 members and users who are predominantly Jewish. We wish to express our abhorrence at the worldwide rising tide of racism, terrorism and ethnic cleansing. Many of our seniors are Holocaust survivors and are haunted by the resurrection of this right wing ideology.

Even well established democracies are not immune from this epidemic of human madness. In our own country, there has been a steady escalation of racist and violent acts. Ernst Zundel, the prolific purveyor of hate literature, is shipping his virulent propaganda to his European sympathizers, without any interference whatsoever from Canadian authorities. The white supremacists are infiltrating the schools, recruiting our children, and polluting their minds with hate ideology. Canada's multiculturalism which has been a shining model of humanitarianism throughout the world, is having its image severely tarnished by the explosion of racism.

Canada has enacted anti-hate legislation, but it does not appear effective. Under the subterfuge of free speech, litigious lawyers have negated and distorted the purpose and meaning of the Canadian Charter of Rights of Freedoms. If government is to successfully prosecute these hatemongers, new legislation is urgently needed. The B.C. government has responded to this need, and has recently introduced an amendment, known as Bill 33, which will hopefully clamp down on these racists. It clearly specifies grounds of discrimination, which include race, color, ancestry, place of origin, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, or age.

We hope and pray that all judicial bodies throughout Canada will introduce similar legislation at the earliest possible opportunity.

Alex Bellan
Social Action Committee

Opinion

Schindler's List a masterful work of movie-making

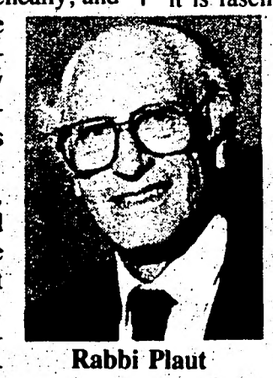
By RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

From time to time, during the 10 years of writing this column, I have called attention to certain books and films. The occasions were few, especially as far as the celluloid medium was concerned.

This column represents one of the exceptions. For I have just seen *Schindler's List*, and I strongly suggest that every one of my readers take the opportunity to see it.

Oskar Schindler was a German entrepreneur who found himself in Nazi-occupied Poland during World War II. He was a registered member of the Nazi party and, because he had been dabbling in defence production, was exempted from military service. He had a few high connections with which he threatened people occasionally when they did not do what he wanted, but otherwise he was very much his own man. He was 31-years-old when the war broke out.

I first learned about him when, ten years ago, I read *Schindler's List* by Thomas Keneally, and when Yad Vashem awarded him the status of Righteous Gentile. *Schindler's List* tells in cinematic form why and how he achieved that exalted status, and how he managed to cheat his masters.



Rabbi Plaut

The movie is set during the war, which is always present with its dread and fury, and many will classify the film as another Holocaust movie. It is that, but vastly more.

To begin with, it is Steven Spielberg's latest production, and according to his own judgement, his very best. Not having seen all of his movies I cannot agree or disagree with him, but having seen this one I am quite sure he must be right.

The film is a masterful combination of fiction and fact, but one never loses sight of the latter. I don't want to give the whole story away because it is fascinating.

Before we went we contemplated the invitation, which said that the show would last three hours and 10 minutes. "We might leave before it is over," we ruminated, "it is a bit long." But when it was over I could not believe how fast the time had passed. The audience sat transfixed, even waiting out the final credits, before they were willing to leave. They and the show had become one.

Spielberg knows how to manipulate people and scenes. He mixes the sense of enormous masses with the face of one individual. Cruelty and kindness dwell side by side. Yes, there is violence, for not only is war an act of ultimate violence, but it was accompanied by the brand of Nazi cruelty which gave it a special dimension. There is death, and you don't get away from it — but ultimately there is life, and to this the film is dedicated in an unforgettable manner.

In the end, what emerges is a man who, starting with ordinary impulses of greed and lust, ends up to be a courageous fighter against the most evil system that the world has ever seen. And he wins, not the system, despite all its power.

A leading Roman Catholic cleric in New York said, after having seen the movie, that he wished every Catholic in the United States would see it. My wish is a bit more modest: I hope that Jews will see it en masse, and that there is enough of an un-Jewish public out there that will make this latest Spielberg creation something people will take to heart. All one has to do is go through the door and sit down. The movie will do the rest — to anyone, and not just us.

We owe Spielberg a special debt, and the least we can do is go and see this master work. In the end, you leave silent, yet uplifted. One man saved many. One person can make a difference.

NDP's employment equity ad lacked common sense

By ARNOLD AGES

The Ontario NDP government had its heart in the right place when it recently attempted to introduce affirmative action for an executive position by barring white males from applying and by advertising its preference for members of certain minority groups.

The problem is that while the NDP has a lot of heart, it lacks a more necessary ingredient in its recipe for its employment policies. That ingredient is called seichel, good old fashioned common sense, and for lack of it, the NDP has set back the cause of equity in employment many years.

The retraction of the advertisement in question, moreover, sends a message to every federal, provincial and municipal employment branch about the impropriety of trying to advance minority rights through exclusionary advertising materials.

One of the ironies in the controversy arising from the clumsy NDP employment manoeuvre is the way in which opponents of the advertisement suddenly became arbiters of morality and denounced the Ontario government's incredibly inept gesture.

One commentator on a prominent Toronto radio station railed against the government for its warfare against white males and predicted that this single gaffe would be the hallmark of the NDP's ultimate decline and would finish off the party.

What is ironic about this? Until the late 1950s the province of Ontario had one of the dreariest records in North America with regard to the employment of minorities. Job discrimination against Jews primarily but also against some Catholics made it difficult if not impossible for these groups to secure employment in the major department stores (with the exception of Jewish-owned stores), in banks, in the large general commercial enterprises and in the corporate sector. During that melancholy period in Ontario history many Jews had to lie about their religious affiliation on work application forms, in order to secure employment.

Arnold Ages

Logically speaking, if the Ontario government had truly wanted to redress past wrongs, it should have added Jews to the list of those given preferential considerations for the jobs in question.

It is a well known fact that in the 1930s and 1940s a whole generation of Jewish medical graduates had to seek interning and residency posts in American hospitals because Canadian institutions wouldn't have Jews in those positions.

In Montreal during that bleak period of Quebec history, the entire staff of a hospital went on strike because someone had the effrontery to engage a Jewish resident.

I do not recall personally nor have I seen any written accounts of journalists, broadcasters or writers who had the courage (or who were even interested in the issue) to denouce the odious anti-Semitic and anti-Catholic employment practices which disenfranchised members of the target population and deprived them of the opportunity to earn a decent living.

Times being what they were, moreover, it would never have occurred to the victims of discrimination to protest or to ask for preferential treatment in employment. During that period, however, how wonderful it would have been to hear the pleas for equity and non discrimination that are all around us today. How welcome an Ontario Human Rights Commission would have been in those days!

It is to be noted, however, that even in the dirty 1930s there was one major exception to the prevailing anti-Semitism in the work place. This was the federal civil service, principally in Ottawa; through a rigorous system of merit evaluation, they succeeded in turning a blind eye to ethnic and religious identity, and hired people because they were deemed fit to occupy certain designated positions. I am not suggesting that the entire civil service was totally free of anti-Semitism but at least Jews and other minority groups had an opportunity to get through the door and show their stuff. In this regard, the civil service was a model of intelligence and probity.

The current Ontario NDP government in contrast, is a model of ambivalence and wrongheadedness. It is to be praised, I repeat, for its desire to redress past and present wrongs visited on aboriginal people, visible minorities and francophones. However, its approach to redressing those wrongs compounds the problem of inequity in employment by using discrimination to cure the ills of discrimination. In so doing, it helps minority groups very little and alienates the majority of people in the province.

There is no perfect way to insure that hiring practices be hermetically sealed against favoritism, nepotism or the old boys' network. But in this imperfect world one does one's best. The government of the people of Ontario must not only be just, but, as the adage puts it, be seen to be just.

The ends of justice are not served when people are given executive positions in government, places in medical, dental or law schools on the basis of ethnic, racial or religious origins. That is the kind of affirmative action which inevitably will breed suspicion about the competence of those who obtain their jobs or professions through that channel.

I do not claim to have all the answers to the questions involved in job equity, but the best way to ensure simple justice is to have a level playing field where no one is discriminated against.

Presents are not the only gift of Chanukah

By ERICA MEYER RAUZIN

Imagine Carly Simon singing *Anticipation*, and think, if you can, of candles. not ketchup. Think of Chanukah candles, and you'll hear the melody that is playing in my children's mental music boxes.

They understand the serious nature of the holiday and are willing to pay all due respect to miraculous wonders, long burning oil lamps, the heroism of Judah Maccabee and the perpetual fight against assimilation. But if I said that meaningful contemplation of Jewish history and divine intervention were the first things on their minds, I'd be dimmer than a burned out light and no extra flask of oil could rekindle me. What are they really, deeply thinking about? They are thinking about presents.

For the moment, I confess, so am I. While they think of getting presents, I'm plotting about giving presents. They envision new bicycles (their knees are pushing against the handlebars when they ride the old ones), new skates and new toys. They are not thinking about clothes, books, rain gear, shoes, socks or desk reference sets, although I am.

The 3-year-old wants trains. He has a little wooden set, with segments of track that fit together, a small magnetic train, a few wooden trees, a family of stick-figure people, and a little wooden train station. When this set arrived last fall, it was the be-all, end-all toy experience of his short life. Now he is a baron, on his way to founding an entire railway empire.

"I need more tracks that go curvy. I need a train for my sisters so they don't ride my train. I need big trees and a bridge," he proclaims, as I think, "Oh, take a ride on the Reading. You're too young to own a transportation conglomerate."

Erica Meyer Rauzin

My middle child wants to take a major position in Barbie clothing futures. She disagrees with my assessment that Ken is the worst-dressed man on the planet: the glitzier the outfits on her dolls, the happier she is. Lame with lace, gold with glitter, satin with sequins, the more the merrier to her. Her yen for Barbie finery is an easy desire to fulfil compared to her last gift whim. She wanted a bridal dress: not a bride costume, mind you, a real bridal gown, with a veil.

She didn't know how to explain to us exactly what she wanted, since her desire was based on a magazine picture not on any actual experience with a bride. She simply told her grandmother, "Nana, I want a new white dress."

So, her Nana, my wonderful mother-in-law, took her shopping.

"Every time we went into a clothing shop," Nana recalls, "your daughter would run up and down each aisle, looking at all the clothes. In five minutes, she'd come back to me at the front door, and announce, 'Well, the one I want isn't here.' After about four stores, I made her tell me all about what she wanted. That's when I realized she wanted a wedding gown." A wedding gown! Sorry, sweetie.

We finally put together a bride dress based on a creative costume kit my daughter received — by beshert — from my brother and his wife in New Jersey. It more than served the purpose, but we still owe Nana due recompense for an afternoon spent slogging from shop to shop.

My oldest, having already pre-emptively received — by fluke — the puppy that was to be her main Chanukah gift, is more into giving than getting. Now, that's admirable, true. But her giving takes the form of confiscating all my mail order catalogues and sending mysterious orders to companies far away. She studies each catalogue, finds one or two items she wants to give, fills out the order form, stuffs the reply envelope with hoarded one-dollar bills, drops it in the mailbox, and spends the next two weeks fretting about when her package is going to come. She watches the mailbox like a 20-year-old with a boyfriend in the Navy. For Chanukah, I hope her ship comes in.

Rest assured, my son will acquire his train cars, my sweet middle will get her doll clothes, and my oldest will get new skates and a few goodies for her and her puppy.

However, I hope that once the presents are all unwrapped, we will have also given our children the real gift of Chanukah: a sense of wonder at the miracle of Jewish survival and the timeless history of their people.

Long after the toy train becomes junk at the back of a teenager's closet, long after Barbie's finery passes along to other little girls, long after the bouncy puppy becomes an old sleepy dog, long after my daughter's mail starts going to other addresses far away, the flame in that ancient oil lamp will still be burning, will still be protecting my children.

I just want to be sure they know it's there.

Features

Russia's 'official' rabbis

Reporting from Moscow and St. Petersburg, Sheldon Kirshner interviews two rabbis who were born and raised in Russia.

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

They were classmates in the 1970s and "official" rabbis in the 1980s. Today, they hold the most important pulpits in Russia.

Rabbi Adolf Avraham Shayevich, 56, presides over Moscow's premier shul, the Choral Synagogue. Last February, he was elected Russia's chief rabbi. During the Communist epoch, the former road-building engineer was chief rabbi of the Soviet Union.

Rabbi Efim Chaim Levitis, 42, the chief rabbi of St. Petersburg, has been spiritual leader of the Choral Synagogue — which marks its centenary this month — since 1980. Like Rabbi Shayevich, he was an official appointee.

Being a former employee of the Soviet government, Rabbi Levitis has been accused by some of having worked for the KGB. He denies the charge, dismissing it as a KGB-disseminated lie designed to destroy the fabric of Jewish life in this country.

Rabbi Shayevich was a member of the notorious Anti-Zionist Committee, a creature of the KGB and the Soviet Communist party. He claims that he was coerced to join and that he did not partake in its activities.

Rabbi Shayevich — a native of Birobidzhan, the so-called autonomous Jewish republic near the Chinese border — was elected chief rabbi by the Association of Jewish Religious Communities, which represents a small minority of Russia's largely secular Jewish population.

He defeated Rabbi Pinchas Goldschmidt, a much younger man from Zurich, Switzerland, who is now chief rabbi of Moscow and head of the Choral Synagogue's religious court.

Clad in a blue pinstripe suit and a black yarmulke, Rabbi Shayevich is nearly 6 feet tall, with a trimmed black beard. He speaks a passable English.

He was born in the city of Khabarovsk, the eldest of two sons. His parents were Belorussian Jews. Solomon was a clerk in the Ministry of Trade, and non-observant. Tatiana, a housewife, observed basic Jewish traditions. The rabbi's brother, an engineer, still lives in Khabarovsk.

Rabbi Shayevich attended local schools, worked as a tractor driver and received an engineering degree from a local polytechnic college.

His life changed radically when, after stepping into a Moscow synagogue, he became immersed in Judaism. In 1972, he entered Moscow's only yeshivah, which was barely tolerated by the government. In his class were 20 students, some of whom, he noted, were only interested in learning Hebrew to facilitate their plans for aliyah.

Shortly afterward, he met Rabbi Arthur Schneier, a New York rabbi and former American Jewish Congress president who currently heads the Appeal of Conscience Foundation.

Rabbi Schneier convinced him he would be better off studying in Budapest's rabbinical seminary, the only one of its kind in the Communist world.

"Rabbi Schneier arranged everything," recalled Rabbi Shayevich. "He had excellent contacts. He knew the Soviet Union's ambassador to the United States, Anatoly Dobrynin."

Granted a two-year visa, Rabbi Shayevich ended up staying for seven years in Budapest. "I realized I needed to learn more than I had imagined." Among his fellow students was Rabbi Levitis.

Rabbi Shayevich returned to Moscow, not only with his smicha, but with a bride. He and his Hungarian wife have two sons, 8 and 11, both of whom attend a Jewish day school, one of four in Moscow.

In 1983, he succeeded the late Rabbi Yacov Fishman at the Choral Synagogue. This coincided with his appointment to the Anti-Zionist Committee, whose formation was announced by the Communist party organ, *Pravda*, in the same year.

The objectives of the Anti-Zionist Committee were basically two-fold: to convince the West that there was no such thing as a "Jewish question" in the Soviet Union, and to defame Zionism as a form of "extreme nationalism, chauvinism and racial intolerance."

Headed by Gen. David Dragunsky, the Anti-Zionist Committee linked "international Zionism" with the "global strategy" of "American imperialism." Israel, with which Moscow had broken diplomatic relations during the 1967 Six Day War, was assailed as an expansionist, racist state.

Most of all, the Anti-Zionist Committee attacked "Zionist propagandists (who) meddle" in Soviet Jewish affairs. "It is well known," committee members proclaimed in *Pravda*, "that Soviet people — genuine internationalists — resolutely reject any forms of chauvinism, including Zionism and anti-Semitism."

In 1989, two years before the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Rabbi Shayevich informed the World Jewish Congress in New York that he was no longer affiliated with the Anti-Zionist Committee, and that it had been dismantled.

"I regret that such a committee existed in the past," he wrote in a letter from Israel, where he was making his first visit. "I have never participated in actions against Jews and Israel."

Rabbi Shayevich was an employee of the Soviet Union

In defending himself from charges that he was a Soviet stooge, Rabbi Shayevich said that Gen. Dragunsky exerted pressure on him to join the committee.

"I could have said no, but I knew I had no choice.

"I never signed any of their declarations, nor did I take part in their press conferences or any of their trips," he added. "I was an inactive member."

Rabbi Shayevich, however, led an official Soviet delegation to Paris in December 1985 to explain Moscow's position on Jews. He was accompanied by Guerman Golowko, an expert on nuclear disarmament, and Samuel Ziv, an outspoken member of the Anti-Zionist Committee.

Rabbi Adolf Avraham Shayevich and Sheldon Kirshner in the courtyard of Moscow's Choral Synagogue. [Natasha Amonova photo]

The delegation was boycotted by the leadership of French Jewry. Theo Klein — president of CRIF, the representative body of major French Jewish organizations — branded the delegation as anti-Zionist and refused to meet its members.

Le Monde, the influential Paris daily, described their visit as "either a misguided attempt to influence public opinion or actually a provocation."

Rabbi Shayevich was "hurt" by the reaction, but pointed out that there are "many good Jews, tens of thousands throughout the Soviet Union, who are at the same time good and loyal Soviet citizens."

Now that the Soviet Union is dead and buried, Rabbi Shayevich is less circumspect.

"I was born in the Communist era and I thought I would die in the Communist era," he said in an interview conducted in his dim ground-floor office adjacent to that of Rabbi Goldschmidt.

"I never thought that this great Soviet state would collapse. All our life, we dreamed of reaching world civilization. But that it would happen so soon, I didn't think."

Neither, he observed, did he ever imagine that something like a Jewish cultural and religious revival could take place in Russia.

But, he cautioned, the rebirth will be gradual. "It will take at least five to 10 years to rebuild the community."

Rabbi Shayevich credits the Diaspora, particularly North American Jews, with having made the ongoing renaissance possible. He urged Diaspora Jewry to continue to send more books, rabbis, teachers and, of course, money.

Only with such assistance, he explained, "can we teach Russian Jews and bring them closer to Judaism."

As matters stand, Rabbi Shayevich said, nine out of 10 Jews in Russia "know nothing" about their traditions and history.

He believes that the future of Russian Jewry hinges on President Boris Yeltsin's ability to build a democratic system in a country where authoritarianism has always been the norm.

"If Yeltsin can organize a real democracy, a lot of Jews will stay here. It also depends on the situation in Israel. I'm optimistic that democracy will find roots in Russia."

* * *

Rabbi Levitis, a chubby man of medium height with a reddish beard, sits behind a big brown desk in his wood-panelled office on the second floor of the shul, a once-ornate building which has gone to seed.

To his left is a heavy black bookcase lined with religious texts in Russian and Hebrew. White curtains block out the fading light of a dull autumn afternoon. In a far corner, atop a green safe, is a solemn picture of the Lubavitch rebbe, Menachem Mendel Schneerson (who, in the early 1940s, was briefly imprisoned in a St. Petersburg fortress).

Rabbi Levitis comes from a religious family, but being a typical Soviet Jew, he pursued another career in his youth. However, after studying at the Moscow Aviation Institute and finishing his national service in the Red Army, he decided he would rather be a rabbi.

Back then, in the early 1970s, Jewish religious life in the Soviet Union was dormant, and you could count the number of rabbis on one hand.

He enrolled in Moscow's sole yeshivah, and for the next few years, devoted himself to the study of Judaism.

Like Rabbi Shayevich, he knew the path to the rabbinate lay through Hungary's rabbinical seminary. So in 1972, with the government's approval, he went to Budapest.

Three years later, he returned to Moscow to continue his studies. In 1980, the year he assumed the rabbinate of the Choral Synagogue, there were all but six rabbis in the length and breadth of the Soviet Union: St. Petersburg, Moscow, Odessa, Tashkent, Tbilisi and Kutaisi.

Rabbi Livitis did not appear surprised or dismayed when asked if he had been a KGB agent. He knows there are rumors to that effect in the Jewish community.

"The KGB spread this propaganda to discourage people from attending synagogue services," he said in a quiet but firm voice. He spoke in Russian through an interpreter.

He realizes that, after more than 70 years of officially-sanctioned atheism, numerous Russian Jews are "very distant" from things Jewish. Yet he is not deterred.

"We're doing what we can to change this," he said. "Even those who are not involved in organized Jewish activities are not lost. They identify as Jews."

Rabbi Mendel Pewzner, the Lubavitch representative in St. Petersburg and head of the Choral Synagogue's religious court, agrees with Rabbi Levitis' upbeat assessment.

"We are working very hard to create Jewish awareness," said Rabbi Pewzner, who has been here for about one year.

Thanks to his efforts, the community now boasts of a kindergarten, a yeshivah, a girls' seminary and a senior citizens' soup kitchen.

"We believe we can reach out to every Jew in St. Petersburg, though the problem of assimilation is tremendous."

Rabbi Pewzner is under no illusions. "We have a lot of work here," he said, in what is probably an understatement. But he has rolled up his sleeves and, together with Rabbi Levitis, is prepared to take on all challenges.

Mideast Analysis

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

Thanks to its Sept. 13 peace accord with the PLO, Israel is reaping a rich diplomatic harvest.

Since then, Israel has forged closer links with Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia, established contact with Indonesia (the world's most populous Muslim country) and improved its position at the United Nations and in Asia, Africa and Western Europe.

Within a day of shaking hands with PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin flew to Morocco and met King Hassan II. Contrary to speculation, Israel and Morocco did not establish formal diplomatic relations.

But Rabin's presence in Morocco — the first by an Israeli premier in seven years — further legitimized Arab acceptance of the Jewish state. And it paved the way for Bank Leumi to establish direct ties with Banque Commerciale du Maroc, and for a first-of-its-kind visit by Moroccan business leaders to Israel.

Meanwhile, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and King Hussein of Jordan signed understandings of economic co-operation. Significantly, their encounter was publicized, albeit after the fact. It followed Peres' meeting with Crown Prince Hassan, King Hussein's brother and heir-apparent, in Washington under the auspices of the United States.

On another front, the first multilateral set of negotiations hosted by an Arab country, Tunisia, was attended by Israel. Peres' deputy, Yossi Beilin, headed Israel's delegation. He was personally welcomed by Tunisia's foreign minister. Oman is scheduled to host the next round of multilateral talks in April, which Israel will attend.

At the United Nations' General Assembly, Israel's credentials were accepted without a murmur by Arab states, a development that also bodes well. In the meantime, Israel and the PLO have agreed to work together to rescind a series of Arab-sponsored anti-Israel resolutions passed by the UN over the past 40 years.

In anticipation of a new era in the Middle East, Arkia — Israel's domestic airline — has signed aviation pacts with agents in Amman, Beirut and Damascus. They are supposed to kick into effect the moment Israel signs peace accords with Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

Israeli diplomats have reportedly held secret discussions with the Persian Gulf emirate of Qatar on a project to bring natural gas to Europe via Israel. Qatar denies the report.

The Tel Aviv daily, *Yediot Ahronot*, reported that Israeli and Iraqi officials discussed the possiblity of holding a dialogue. Peres dismissed the story, saying Israel would not deal with Iraq so long as it is ruled by Saddam Hussein.

Diplomatic harvest

In October, Rabin became the first Israeli premier to be invited to China on a state visit. Consular and aviation agreements were signed. Flying back to Israel, Rabin stopped in Indonesia and met its leader. Rabin's stopover in Jakarta was not entirely surprising. Last July, Israeli newspapers carried stories of secret talks between Israel and Indonesia.

Prior to these developments, Malaysia suggested it was prepared to begin a dialogue with Israel. Malaysia's prime minister, Mahatir Mohammed, is one of Israel's most outspoken critics in Asia. Elsewhere in Asia, Israel has opened relations with Cambodia and Laos.

In Africa, Israel has established diplomatic relations with Gabon, Burkina Faso, Mauritius and Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia). Ties with Mozambique, which were formalized last summer, are moving forward. And in South Africa, Israel has had top-level meetings with the African National Congress, which is expected to assume power after next April's multiracial election.

More recently, Israel has improved relations with Greece's newly-elected government, whose premier, Andreas Papandreou, is sympathetic to the Palestinian cause. On a trip to Athens, Peres took note of the new climate and directly attributed Papandreou's shift in attitude toward Israel to its accord with the PLO.

Finally, Israel and the Vatican are on the verge of establishing diplomatic relations. Talks on normalization began in July 1992, but are expected to yield concrete results within a matter of months. If the PLO can reach a rapprochement with Israel, so can the Vatican.

Organizations and People

Sarah Bell (centre), age 90, visits with her son and daughter-in-law, Robert and Eva Bell, following the official ceremony marking the new management of Elm Ridge Group Living Residence by Baycrest Centre.

Elm Ridge seniors' home becomes part of Baycrest

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO — "I don't think a parent should live with a son or daughter," said Doris Lipson, one of 13 women who live in the Elm Ridge Group Living Residence.

Lipson was pleased that the Residence is to become part of Baycrest Centre. "We are looking forward to joining this larger family."

The change is part of Baycrest's move to reach out to the community, Stephen Herbert, president and chief executive officer, said at a reception marking the switchover of the Residence. It represents a chance to provide the residents with a continuum of care if they require any of Baycrest's services, he said. Before he left, Herbert distributed free memberships to the Baycrest's Wagman Centre to the residents. A shuttle bus takes them to Wagman every week.

Opened seven years ago, the Residence, the only Jewish group home for older adults, has been managed by the Jewish Family and Child Service. Able to accommodate a total of 14, it has had male residents in the past, but has none now. It has quarters for couples if any should apply. Right now there is no waiting list and a month try-out period is available. For information, 785-2878.

One of the new residents, Sarah Bell, in her 90s, delighted the reception when she took the microphone spontaneously to say: "My son Robert comes to see me every day, isn't he wonderful?"

This was after Robert Bell, on behalf of the families of the residents, welcomed Baycrest to the scene. He said his mother was living in a subsidized apartment in Montreal but was not happy there. After she moved to Toronto, she lived with him and his wife for a few months but missed interaction with people with her own interests.

"She tried the Residence out for a month, but even after only four or five days her personality changed for the better. She feels she is in a real home here."

The 13 current residents are in their 70s and 80s, with one in her 90s. Two kosher meals are available every day, while residents can get their own breakfast. The residence is situated on Elm Ridge Drive near Marlee Avenue. There is always staff on the premises.

"This type of supportive housing is the trend of the future," said Margaret MacAdam, Baycrest's vice-president of social services. "This 'aging in place' is intended to help older adults remain in the community as long as possible by bringing support services into their homes.

Anti-racism education urged for B.C. public school system

By MAURICE LUCOW

VANCOUVER — A provincially-mandated curriculum in anti-racism and human rights education for kindergarten to grade 12 students has been demanded in a report to the British Columbia government from the Forum for Action on Multicultural Education.

The report was released at the fifth National Conference on Multiculturalism, Intercultural and Race Relations held recently at the Hotel Vancouver over a three-day period.

Rhoda Kaellis, a leading Jewish activist in the Vancouver community, was chair of the Forum. In releasing the report she said racially-motivated conflicts are occuring in elementary and secondary schools in B.C. because teachers are not getting the kind of training they need to deal with such conflicts. Kaellis said the situation will get worse unless anti-racism programs are included in the curriculum for each grade.

Teacher training in this area "cannot be a casual thing," she said. "We have to have programs available to teachers that will be integrated into the system. If it's just something that's tacked on, teachers won't do it."

The Forum report is the result of a one-day meeting held in Vancouver in October, which attracted 96 representatives of multicultural, ethnic and teacher-and-parent organizations. The meeting was funded by a $15,000 grant from the provinical education ministry.

The report calls for educational materials to change student attitudes and promote understanding and co-operation. "Materials must be reviewed and assessed by scholars and teachers for effectiveness, as well as by students in pilot programs and field testing. A standing committee should be instituted for this task."

In addition, curriculum guides in each subject must be reviewed for content by members of the community.

Funding must be earmarked by the government, specifically for multicultural, anti-racism and human rights, the report states. An audit system is required to determine if schools are meeting policy and curriculum guidelines. Audit results must be included in the school district annual reports.

Active attempts should be made to recruit visible and other minorities into the teaching profession through such means as bursaries, videos and pamphlets. The report also calls for an equity program to replace retiring teachers with visible and other minorities.

Parental involvement in schools and school participation in the community should be encouraged, says the report.

The Forum is hoping for a progress report by June 1994. A meeting will take place the evening of June 13 at Hodson Manor in Vancouver.

Correction

The British Columbia family interviewed for the cover story of the Chanukah supplement (*CJN*, Dec. 9) was erroneously referred to as the Ackerman family. Arlene Ackerman is married to Dr. Philip Lipsey, and their children are Miriam and Rivka Lipsey.

The family lives on Vancouver Island.

We regret the error, and wish them well in their efforts to add Jewish warmth and spirit to the far west of Canada.

The Management and Staff
of
The Canadian Jewish News
extend sincerest condolences
to our colleague and friend
Honey Mahl
and her family
on the sudden loss of their
beloved husband, father, grandfather
and great-grandfather
Herman Laufer ז"ל

METRO

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Metro Hall, Station 1080
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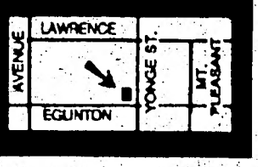

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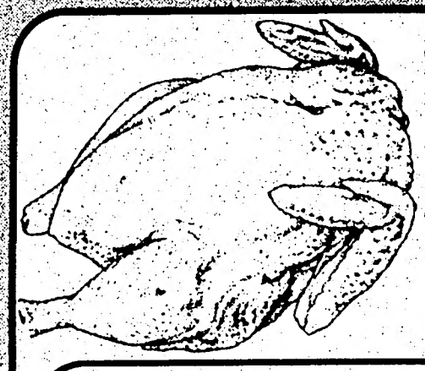

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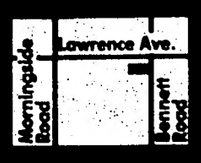

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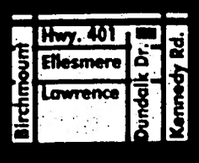

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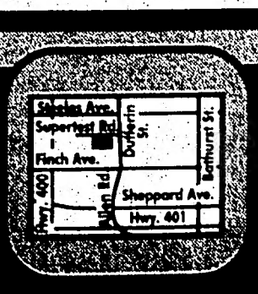

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Seniors confront homosexuality

TORONTO — Two very different groups came face to face recently in a small conference room at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care. A dozen elderly women and men, all residents of Baycrest Terrace, met with two Jewish women who are lesbians working for the AIDS committee of Toronto.

"The women were invited to Baycrest because the subject of homosexuality had come up during a discussion group, and the residents asked a lot of questions which I couldn't really answer," explains social worker Paula David who organized the encounter.

The women who met with residents were Hyla Mendelow, 44, and Bonnie who preferred not to be photographed or to have her real name used for publicity purposes.

The discussion began slowly. Many of the seniors, who are in their 70s, 80s and even 90s, seemed a bit uncomfortable asking personal questions about the women's relationship and their sexual orientation.

"These people were born in an era where hetereosexuality wasn't discussed, much less homosexuality. It was a time when marriage might have been arranged and women especially were extremely modest about such matters," says David.

"What makes someone different like you both are?" asked one elderly woman.

"There are many theories about what causes someone to be gay," Mendelow told the group. "The fact is that there have always been women like us — the aunt who never married, women friends who lived together in a lifetime relationship. Perhaps it just wasn't acceptable back then to label these as lesbian relationships."

The elderly residents were particularly interested in the fact that Mendelow was once married and has two grown daughters.

"What prompts a person who is married and has a child to have a whole new life?" asked one woman.

"Yes, I was married," Mendelow told them. "I didn't leave my husband and say I was a lesbian the next day. It took me a long time to realize I was a lesbian. I became politically active in women's groups and I became more open. I had always thought about being with women, I always got my nurturing and support from women."

Bonnie, a nurse, was also married for several years.

"Over a long period of time I was aware that relationships with men were not for me. I didn't feel I could be myself," she said. "When I was around 30, it became clear that whether a man was nice or not, it didn't feel right, so I stopped trying to have relationships with men."

Several residents admitted they didn't understand how a child could be raised in a home with two parents of the same sex.

"When you have children, a child wants to know who's the daddy and who's the mother. How do you tell this to your children?" asked one woman in her 80s.

"My daughter knows her father, so it's not an issue," Mendelow replied. "In other families, children call each woman by Mummy and her first name — for example, 'Mummy Laura.' In these families, it's very clear that it's okay to have two women bringing up a child."

Bonnie said that the world is a different place than it was when the residents were starting their own families.

One elderly woman said she feels embarassed about the women's openness, asking why it was so important for them to talk about such private matters.

"At first I felt that people's attitude toward me as a nurse would change if they knew I was a lesbian," said Bonnie. "Other people talked about their husbands or boyfriends, but I talked about nothing. That's what being in the closet is like. I relate it very much to being Jews who don't want people to know they're Jewish. They change their names because of fear, and maybe they live in circumstances where they have every right to be afraid. I think my daughter has the right to feel okay about who her mother is. Forty or fifty years ago people didn't talk about these issues, but now we know that openness and honesty are better."

The women, who are both Jewish, said that for a long time they were the only Jews who worked with the AIDS Committee of Toronto. They told the residents about the many struggles faced by gay men with AIDS.

"When one man we know told his family that he was gay, they said they wouldn't talk to him," said Mendelow. "Then when he told them he had AIDS, they said, 'It serves you right.' But some families can be wonderful. One man's mother does volunteer work at the AIDS committee because she wants to be part of her son's life."

Mendelow said that Jewish men with AIDS bear an extra burden of guilt and sadness.

"They all went to Hebrew school and were barmitzvahed, but even now they can't come to most synagogues as part of a gay couple," she explained.

"Unfortunately, a lot of times the Jewish community isn't there for them. But to me, that's not what Judaic law is about," she said. "That does not fit in with my sense of Jewish history, of fighting for social justice and freedom."

Bonnie and Mendelow said that they are both learning how to say Kaddish so that when Jewish men who have been abandoned by their families die from AIDS, someone will be there to mourn for them.

New Israel/Diaspora relationship predicted

TORONTO — Israel will be paying less attention to the Diaspora in the coming years, predicted one of the country's leading educators.

Avraham Infeld, in Toronto recently on a United Jewish Appeal sponsored tour, believes Israel will be concentrating more on relations with its neighbors, now that peace is possible. It's a new reality, he says, one that Jews outside Israel will have to get used to, but one with positive side effects.

"So much North American effort has been centralized on Israel at war. Now there's going to be greater participation in local concerns."

Infeld feels one of those domestic North American concerns should be education. He says Jewish schools are turning out students who are not learning what they should — such as the Hebrew language.

"Between 1989 and 1991, $1.1 billion was spent teaching kids to read a language they don't understand," he told his UJA audience.

Infeld is the founder and chairman of the Melitz Centre for Jewish-Zionist education, which is trying to instill Jewish identity into both Israeli and North American youngsters. Melitz is trying to combat the prospect of North American-style assimilation and intermarriage in Israel — a byproduct of peace with the Arabs.

"There's no reason in the world why some of the problems that are taking place in the Diaspora won't be taking place in Israel," he warned.

Melitz is now working with 28,000 students in Israel's public education system and more than 15,000 recently arrived Russians, many of whom "have never heard of the exodus from Egypt."

Infeld is worried about misunderstandings among Jews, which, on subjects such as the Jewishness of Israel, have led to "absolute turmoil." Jewish harmony, he said is all a matter of memory.

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The annual sponsor luncheon for the Women's Division of State of Israel Bonds was held at the home of Rose Ziner (centre). Close to $1 million in bonds were purchased at the event. Seen here (from left) are division chair, Barbara Cappe-Jacobs; guest speaker, Nella Ya'acobi; luncheon co-chairs Yetta Randall and Reggie Levenstadt. [Rosemary Goldhar photo]

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Organizations and People

At the 1993 Negev Dinner are (from left) Israeli Ambassador Itzhak Shelef, Susan Cohon, George Cohon, Patricia Alpert, president of JNF Toronto; Russian Federation Ambassador Alexander Belonogov, and Alan Posluns, president of JNF Canada.

Toronto JNF Negev Dinner pays tribute to George Cohon

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — Toronto's 1993 Negev Dinner to honor George A. Cohon was held recently at the Sheraton Centre Hotel.

Cohon, a native of Chicago, Ill., who moved to Toronto in 1967 as the McDonald's licensee for Eastern Canada, is head of McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd.

He was the moving force behind McDonald's expansion to Moscow and serves as vice chair of Moscow-McDonald's.

From the opening remarks by Paul Godfrey, the dinner chair and master of ceremonies, to the departure of Lt.-Gov. Henry Jackman, the evening was filled with words of admiration for the honoree and for the 92 years of accomplishments of the Jewish National Fund (JNF), Keren Kayemeth Le'Israel.

The money raised at this year's Negev Dinner will go to establish the George A. Cohon Family Youth Centre at Yatir in the northern Negev Desert.

"It is a way to build a youth centre in a very barren part of Israel where young people will learn to do things that they otherwise wouldn't learn to do," said Cohon.

The campaign co-chairs were Hershell Ezrin, Philip Greenspan and Tom Ungar.

The head table guests included: the Cohon family, George, Susan, Craig and Mark; the ambassador of the Russian Federation to Canada, Alexander Belonogov; Consul General Dror Zeigerman; JNF's new shaliach, Brig. Gen. Doron Kadmiel; and Ben Prossin, the executive director of JNF, Toronto.

The ambassador of the State of Israel to Canada, Itzhak Shelef, brought greetings from the people and government of Israel. He recognized the honoree for excellence in communal leadership. He praised Cohon for his association with world causes and his dedication to Israel where "we have been the beneficiaries of his generosity and felt the depth of his concern. The motto: 'Millions served' could easily be applied to human beings as well as to hamburgers," said Shelef.

Alan Posluns, president of JNF Canada, noted Cohon's involvement in the life of the community, the affairs of this country and even beyond its borders. "Your work with young people," said Posluns, "has always been your trademark in public service. We applaud your commitment and energy in seeking to help build a better future for so many."

Welcoming the 1,100 guests to the 45th annual Negev Dinner, president of JNF Toronto, Patricia Alpert thanked Cohon for helping to "ensure a recreational and cultural component that will greatly benefit the young people who will partake of the Camp Yatir program."

The executive vice-president of JNF Canada, Morris Zilka, introduced the keynote speaker, Moshe Rivlin, the world chair of JNF. Born in Jerusalem, a seventh generation Sabra whose family came to Jerusalem in 1810, Rivlin served as a major in the Intelligence Service during the War of Independence and became consul general in New York in 1952. He joined Keren Kayemeth in 1977.

"If you go to Yatir, you will see one of the most beautiful forests — see how the desert is being pushed back. There you can see what vision, devotion and dedication can do," said Rivlin.

Sons Craig, 30, general director of Coca Cola's Moscow operation, and Mark, 27, director of Game Development for Major League Baseball International in New York, paid tribute to their father as well.

The program also included Rabbi Dow Marmur, Cantor Benjamin Maissner, a JNF video presentation, and a surprise visit from Ronald McDonald.

Nursery children learn tolerance

TORONTO — The children of Torah Tots Nursery School are learning to accept those different from themselves thanks to two recent encounters.

Last month, Beverly Burger, a blind woman, visited the school. Teacher Helga Szalai said her visit made such an impression that the children spoke about it for days afterwards.

The youngsters admired Burger's seeing-eye dog, cane and Braille book, which Szalai said they called "bumpy."

She was given perfumed flowers made by the children which she could smell as well as touch.

The following week, the Torah Tots visited the Zareinu Educational Centre for a mock Sabbath.

Zareinu is a school for special-needs children. Szalai said the visit went smoothly, with the two groups sitting around a table, singing Sabbath songs and making a brachah together over their grape juice.

After the Sabbath ceremony, the students played together on the trampoline, climbers, slides, tricycles and hanging balloons in Zareinu's gym.

Beverly Burger talks to youngsters.

CORRECTION

A monument in memory of

RABBI SHELDON STEINBERG ז"ל

will be unveiled in Israel on Monday, December 27, at 2:30 p.m., at the Eretz Hachaim cemetery, Mifgash Shamshon, Yeshiva College Alumni Association section, zone 5, number 153. A bus will leave for the cemetery from the Moriah Hotel in Jerusalem at 1:30 p.m.

Network plans convention

TORONTO — The Jewish Students' Network-Canada is holding its annual National Convention this year at Toronto's Downtown Sheraton Hotel from December 22 to December 26.

This is the opportunity for Jewish students and young adults from across the nation to meet and share ideas, hear dynamic speakers, participate in workshops and seminars, and set the Jewish student agenda for the upcoming year. Often, it is the only opportunity for Jewish students from small communities to take part in such a forum.

This year Network-Canada is pleased to announce that Carol Pollard, executive director of Citizens for Justice, will be addressing the convention on Wednesday, December 22 at 8:30 p.m. The community is invited to come and hear Ms. Pollard, sister of Jonathan Pollard, at the Sheraton at 123 Queen Street West. There is a suggested donation of $15. No one will be turned away for lack of funds, but a minimum of $7 will be much appreciated.

Carol Pollard invited

Other topics to be covered at the five-day conference include: leadership development, how to communicate effectively, the media on campus, missionaries, political activism, women and Judaism, the Shabbat experience, regional representation, and examining Jewish identity. For more information or to register, call (416) 783-1165 or 1-800-465-1807.

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Toronto teenagers capture gold medals in judo

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO — Inspiration and perspiration go hand in hand when it comes to excelling in sports, and so it should come as no surprise that two recent judo gold medalists had a healthy serving of both.

Joel Gerson and Masha Kazakevich grappled their way to gold medals at the recently concluded Ontario Open Judo Championship.

Both put in hours of hard training and both, to varying degrees, were inspired by Israel's Yael Arad, a judo champion who to Jewish judo-ists represents the epitome of athletic accomplishment.

Arad, *CJN* readers will recall, was the first Israeli athlete to capture a medal at the Olympic Games, winning a silver at last summer's games in Barcelona. She followed that with a second place finish at the recent world championships in Hamilton.

"Yael Arad is a serious inspiration," said Gerson, 19, of Toronto, a gold medal winner in the 65 kilogram class. Kazakevich, who hails from Richmond Hill, captured the gold in the 56 kg seniors category.

In addition to sharing a deep admiration for Arad, Gerson and Kazakevich have another thing in common. Both are coached by Moni Aizik of the Samurai Club Martial Arts & Fitness Centre.

Rounding out the series of coincidences is the fact that Aizik was Arad's coach in Israel for 10 years at the Maccabi Tel Aviv club — a connection that Gerson says inspires him.

Fellow Samurai students Coby Segal and Eddy Dobrovsky captured medals at the Ontario Open as well; Segal a silver in the juvenile 56 kg class, Dobrovsky a bronze in the seniors 95 kg category.

Gerson, who met Arad when she was here for the world championships, is setting his goals high. Although he professes to "take it one major tournament at a time," he's already talking about making this year's provincial team and following that up next year with a shot at the national squad.

Gerson, a green belt, traces his interest in judo back about six years when Aizik was teaching it as part of a course he was offering in Israeli combat/survival training at the north branch of the Jewish Community Centre.

Aizik, a former Israeli commando instructor, later opened his own martial arts club. For several years, Gerson competed only inside the club, moving up the ranks and increasing his skill level. About two years ago, he began entering other competitions, quickly winning a gold medal at the Brantford Judo Championships.

Gerson says he loves the competitiveness of the sport and the "adrenalin rush" of throwing your opponent and getting an ippon — the judo equivalent of a knockout in boxing.

For her part, Kazakevich says she doesn't have the burning desire to get to the top of the sport. "I want to continue it," she said. "I love it and want to get better."

Kazakevich, a native of Grodno, now part of Belarus, moved to Canada with her family eight years ago. About two years ago, she joined the Samurai Club to learn self defence, starting with Aizik's survival training course. At his suggestion, she began judo lessons and took to it because "it suits my personality."

Joel Gerson (right) got a chance to meet Israeli judo master Yael Arad during the recent world judo championships in Hamilton.

Judo "is more than physical training and technique. It's a mental challenge," she says.

Kazakevich, an orange belt, says she enjoys judo's one-on-one competition and is able to defeat brown belts, a higher category.

Her specialty is a juji gatame move, an arm lock that puts pressure on an opponent's elbow to force them to give up.

Aizik believes both athletes have bright futures in the sport with the potential of advancing to the national level. If he wants it badly enough and works hard enough, Gerson has the ability to one day represent Canada at the Olympic Games, he predicts.

Beth Tzedec welcomes new rabbi into congregation

By SYLVIA PAPERNICK

TORONTO — With pomp, circumstance and much emotion, Beth Tzedec Congregation in Toronto recently held an induction ceremony for their new senior rabbi, Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl. This was the first time in the congregation's history that such a program was held.

Many rabbis, other clergymen and prominent community members came to pay tribute to Rabbi Frydman-Kohl, who ascended the pulpit at Beth Tzedec this year. The program, which was organized by installation co-chairs Barbara Kelman and Jack Grossman, also featured colleagues and teachers of Rabbi Frydman-Kohl's from the Jewish Theological Seminary, from which he graduated.

The ceremony began with a procession of the members of the dais as the choir, led by Gordon Kushner, sang *MaTovu*. Rabbi Frydman-Kohl was brought in under a chupah, formed from a tallit and four poles, held by members of the synagogue youth executive.

Greetings were conveyed from many who could not attend the ceremony, such as Canadian Jewish Congress president Irving Abella, Rabbi Gunther Plaut, Premier Bob Rae, Rabbi Benjamin Freidberg, the former senior rabbi of Beth Tzedec and from Congregation Ohav Shalom, Rabbi Frydman-Kohl's former congregation.

Rabbi Ismar Schorsch, chancellor of The Jewish Theological Seminary, spoke of how a mere year earlier, he had visited Beth Tzedec, then in the process of seeking a new rabbi, and he found "a community in a state of anxiety."

He went on to discuss the problems facing many Jews today, those searching for spirituality, something holy, a greater meaning in their lives. Some are in search of G-d, on a quest for something beyond the everyday. Referring to Rabbi Frydman-Kohl, he exclaimed that "he's been brought to be a living model of that which is Jewish holiness . . . he is a genuine religious personality." In conclusion he addressed the congregation lauding them, "you have chosen well, your anxiety is over."

Rabbi Byron Sherwin, vice-president of Spertus College of Judaica in Chicago, elaborated on how "times have changed, challenges have changed." Rabbis who are great orators or great fundraisers are no longer enough, the people "need a rabbi skilled at raising consciousness, at what it means to be a Jew." He spoke of how Rabbi Frydman-Kohl is "addicted" to Jewish learning, a spiritual therapist.

Rabbi Baruch Frydman-Kohl

Rabbi Frydman-Kohl expressed his thanks to the people of the congregation for welcoming himself and his wife, Josette and their three sons, and facilitating their move to a new congregation. He expressed his gratitude to G-d for the opportunity to serve Beth Tzedec.

"I believe that there still is a value and a purpose to large synagogues, but our membership is only a means to an end. We are able to generate and sustain programs which help to determine the future of the Jewish community," he said.

He stressed the importance of family education programs. "Young adults feel less connected than their parents to Shabbat, kashrut, synagogue life and tzedakah (charity)."

At the end of the program, the synagogue presented Rabbi Frydman-Kohl with the tallit which was used as the chupah when he entered the sanctuary. He presented the synagogue with a mezuzah, observing that the synagogue did not already have one on their front door. He believes "our synagogue must see itself as a gateway to both humanity and holiness."

Choosing Village Park Was A Family Decision

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Organizations and People

Shulman promotes special food for Parkinson's sufferers

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — Morton Shulman's foray into the pharmaceutical industry could have been his undoing — in fact he lost millions of dollars on it. Those who know the flamboyant doctor, however, shouldn't be surprised that he has since recouped the money and now has a new venture in the works.

Although he has maintained a medical practice on Roncesvalles Avenue since 1950, Shulman is better known for his stints as chief coroner of Metropolitan Toronto (1963-67), as an MPP for the New Democratic Party (1967-75), as a columnist for the *Toronto Sun*, and as a controversial television talk show host (1975-83).

Most recently, he has become the subject of a frank biography by Toronto journalist Susan Kastner, entitled *Can't Somebody Shut Him Up?*

When interviewed recently in his office, Shulman talked excitedly about a sweet-tasting, thick, liquid synthetic food developed especially for those with Parkinson's disease. Shulman, whose Parkinson Charitable Trust will be producing the product that he describes as a "major breakthrough," expects to have it on the market by March 1994.

"It's been known for 25 years that protein is very bad for people with Parkinson's," Shulman told *The CJN*. "On a low-protein diet, the patients get so hungry around 4 o'clock they can't stand it." The new food substitute, which is protein-free but high in carbohydrates and fibre, is filling, he said. "I've got patients on it now."

Shulman's own experience validates his hype. Diagnosed with Parkinson's in the early 1980s, Shulman has battled the disease with characteristic tenacity, most notably bringing the Hungarian medication Eldepryl, also known as Deprenyl, to Canada, both for himself and the public. This is the accomplishment in which he takes the most pride, he said. "Eldepryl brought 100,000 people out of bed [in Canada] and in the United States."

Although Eldepryl dramatically alleviated his symptoms, especially when he first started taking it, he found himself in recent years without the energy to work a full day. With the food substitute, he has cut his dosage of Eldepryl in half and works from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. instead of going home at 1 p.m.

To bring Eldepryl to the public, Shulman established Deprenyl Research Ltd., the ups and downs of which attracted much media attention.

Shulman's son Geoffrey, a dermatologist, is now running Deprenyl Research. Shulman has sold all his shares. He maintains that the financial woes suffered by the company last year were the result of his ego getting the better of him. "Nothing went wrong with the company," he stated.

He is disappointed that Kastner's book "turned out to be about the fall of Deprenyl" rather than what he would consider his biography.

Shulman, who has written a number of books himself, including *Anyone Can Make A Million*, claims he doesn't have the patience to write his own autobiography.

Financially, he has made a comeback and his new business appears promising. He still maintains a limited medical practice, despite the Parkinson's, which been diminished but not eliminated.

"If your life is at stake, you fight," he said. "My life was at stake, physically and financially."

Morton Shulman

Weizmann gets set to honor Koffler

TORONTO — The Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science will celebrate its 30th anniversary on January 9, 1994 at the Inn on the Park Hotel.

The joint national and Toronto chapter annual meeting will be followed by a gala 30th anniversary celebratory dinner during which Murray Koffler, founding president of the Canadian Society, will be honored on the completion of his term as chairman of Weizmann's international board of governors and on the occasion of his 70th birthday. According to report, the dinner, chaired by Thomas Beck, will have some surprise elements.

Murray Koffler

The meeting will include presentations to major donors to the Laub Youth Village at the Weizmann Institute as well as a presentation by Leif Loberg, a University of Toronto student and 1992 recipient of the Beatrice and Arthur Minden Scholarship at the Bessie F. Lawrence International Summer Science Institute.

The Canadian Society was formally inaugurated in Montreal three decades ago, and Torontonian Murray Koffler, the founder of Shoppers Drug Mart, became its first national president. He served as international chair for the past six years.

Haim Harari, president of the Weizmann Institute, will speak at the dinner. Gershon Kekst, new chairman of Weizmann's international board, will also take part in the program.

Stillman takes over local school board

TORONTO — Ward 9 trustee Shelley Stillman last week was voted chair of the North York Board of Education, replacing Elsa Chandler, who stepped down from the post.

Stillman, 46, has been a trustee for eight years and served as chair of the board's budget committee for the last two years.

Shelley Stillman

Ward 6 trustee David Young was elected vice-chair of the board.

As board chair, Stillman will continue to be one of five board representatives on the Metropolitan Toronto School Board.

Earlier this month, Chandler announced she would not seek re-election to the post she'd held for two years.

Chandler, a Holocaust survivor, has been a trustee for 17 years and a representative to the Metro board for five years. As well, she has chaired several committees on both the North York and Metro boards.

Following her election, Stillman said the North York board will not stray from its objectives of reducing costs and seeking to improve the quality of education.

Stillman said she will also support approval of the board's city-wide literacy testing program later this month and work with trustees and staff on other initiatives to improve the school system's accountability to parents.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles events is an advertising feature of The Canadian Jewish News. **Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.** For rates or to place an ad, please call Joe at 422-2528.

The CJN encourages readers to direct any queries they might have on an upcoming event to the event's organizers.

*****FLORIDA*****
Mark and Ari are having a huge party at Cazba **Monday Dec. 27th 1993** in Boca Raton, Fla. 21065 Powerline Rd. See you there.
Call Ari Huber and Mark Brodkin hotline for details **733-1419**

*****WE'RE BACK*****
ANOTHER HUGE PARTY
Mark and Ari invite you to the matzo ball Friday Dec. 24. Whiskey Saigon 250 Richmond St. W. Pool tables, door prizes. 3 floors of fun. Not to be missed.
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****PRE-NEW YEAR'S DANCE****
****SATURDAY DECEMBER 18TH****
NEW IMAGE 50+ SINGLES at Earl Bales Community Centre 8 p.m. D.J. Phil Allenbick. Refreshments, prizes, members $5 guests $6. Come and enjoy!!

****Traditionally our largest party of the year!** Metro Toronto Singles presents our 7th annual Chanukah party Friday Dec 24th from 7 p.m. at Berlin and Yuk Yuk's Uptown 2335 Yonge St. For information call 222-7111

Atidenyu Lodge (20s &30s) Movie night on Thursday Dec. 16 at Canada Square (Yonge & Eglinton) 6:30 p.m. Meet at front of ticket booth. Contact Shari 886-5154.

Bring a friend or make a new friend at the Hotspot of Toronto--RPM Club Dec. 24th at 8:30 p.m. Dance to the coolest music and the greatest DJ. Awesome laser show. Advance tickets $10; $15 at the door. Call 785-1438

Calling all singles 45+ **Beth Emeth Bais Yehudah Synagogue** invites you to an Oneg Shabbat and Friday night dinner **December 17** 6p.m. $15. Call Bernice Binstock 633-7034 or Synagogue 633-3838.

Fabulous Dinner Dance Saturday Dec. 25th in a very elegant restaurant. 5-piece orchestra. An evening you'll remember. $25. Hurry we won't have space at this price. Sonia 445 8027

New Year's Bash. "5 course sit down dinner". Prof. DJ 7:30-2a.m. In the elegant ballroom of the Radisson Hotel. Singles coming from Ottawa, Montreal & Toronto. Early bird prepaid $55. Limited space. Sonia 445 8027

The Adath Israel Singles Committee 35+ (Bathurst and Wilson) invites the singles community to a Sunday brunch, December 19th 11:30 a.m. Our guest speaker will be Cantor Zvi Slotki from Jerusalem, who will speak on "**Leading A Vegetarian Lifestyle,**" a presentation on vegetarianism and its Judaic sources. Meat and potato lovers are invited as well. $8.00 pre-paid registration(s) only at the synagogue office--635-5340.**DEADLINE** is Thursday, December 16th at 5 p.m. VISA accepted.

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BB lodge allows seniors to 'reach out'

TORONTO — Wilson Heights Lodge 1998 B'Nai Brith is holding its 32nd annual Chanukah phone call day at the Baycrest Centre, 3560 Bathurst St., on Dec. 19.

The event starts at approximately 11:45 a.m. and concludes in mid-afternoon.

Six weeks prior to this event each year, notice cards are sent out by our organization to families of the residents to ascertain whether or not they wish to participate in the program.

Once they acknowledge their participation, the groundwork is laid with Bell Canada operators to obtain the overseas contact person on the telephone. The Bell operator acknowledges the contact and our volunteers (approximately 30-40 individuals) help the residents to telephone. We take a photograph while residents are on the phone and give it to them as a souvenir afterwards.

Approximately 75 individuals from the home and 10 from the hospital at Baycrest participate in the program, which is chaired by lodge members, Moe Freedman and Lawrie Fine.

Ten different phone lines are used. Residents on floors 7-10 stay on their own floor to make the calls. Residents on floors 5 and 6 call from floor 2. Those who are too ill and/or are confined to wheelchairs and stretchers, can remain on their own floors to make their calls.

Our Lodge pays for the entire event out of our own funds. It is one of our most important and most rewarding community programs. As far as we know, no other organization has provided this service as long as our Lodge has.

If you need more information, please do not hesitate to call me at 789-1137, Moe Freedman at 631-9660 or Lawrie Fine at 633-5353.

BBW/C DELIVERS CHANUKAH BASKETS

Members of Sha'aron Chapter of B'nai Brith Women of Canada recently assembled and delivered 180 Chanukah baskets to Jewish residents in non-Jewish nursing homes, veterans in Sunnybrook Hospital and to several shut-ins. All merchandise was donated by local store owners or chapter members. The project is in its fifth year.

Shown above with Malvine Lermer, a resident of Castleview Wychwood Towers are, from left, Miriam Freedman, Chaplain Lillian Curtis of the nursing home and Miriam Freilich.

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We mourn the passing of
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suddenly of a heart attack on Sunday, December 5th in B'nei Brak.
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Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 20: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 21: 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
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Organizations and People

What's New

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

DEADLINE REMINDER

Deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date. However, since we are not publishing an issue Dec. 30, all items that would ordinarily appear Dec. 30 must be included in the Dec. 23 column. Please note these other holiday changes - Thursday, Dec. 16 is deadline for Jan. 6 issue, and Wednesday, Dec. 22, is deadline for Jan. 13 column. I am at my desk on deadline days only to receive your calls and sort my mail.

Friday, Dec. 17

DOWNTOWN REFORM MINYAN

The new Downtown Reform Minyan's first Friday evening Shabbat service takes place 7:15 p.m. at OISE, Room 2242, 252 Bloor St. W. Services will be bi-weekly, alternating between Friday evening and Saturday morning. All are welcome to join in egalitarian worship in a warm, contemporary community. For more information, call **Ellen Morrow**, 694-0556.

CHANUKAH CELEBRATION HOUR

Concert pianist **Lola Julitta Burns** will play Jewish traditional Hebrew songs and dance music, 2-3 p.m., Lincoln Place, 429 Walmer Rd.

Sunday, Dec. 19

RELIGIOUS PLURALISM

Rabbi Mordechai Becher, senior lecturer, Ohr Somayach, Thorhnill, will discuss The Boy With Two Heads: Is Religious Pluralism Possible? at 8:30 p.m., 613 Clark Ave. W. The lecture will discuss a Torah view on tolerance and pluralism within Judaism. Public invited, $5 admission.

PNAI MEETING

Parents of North American Israelis is having a Chanukah meeting, 7:30 p.m., Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 470 Glencairn Ave., with Chanukah refreshments and entertainment by **Bluma Schonbrun**. Parents and families of Toronto Israelis are invited to attend.

MINI BAZAAR

Women's Canadian ORT is holding a mini bazaar at the charity booth, Steeles West Marketplace, 9 a.m.- 6 p.m. Fabulous bargains on new and used merchandise. Donations and volunteer help gladly accepted. Call 787-0297.

JEWS, JUDAISM AND RACISM

The community is invited to hear a debate between the late Rabbi Meir Kahane and Allan Dershowitz taped in the 1980's, 1 p.m., Toronto Zionist Center, 788 Marlee Ave, Haifa Room. $3 donation requested.

STRETCH TO INFINITY

Take a journey to the very root of Jewish spirituality. This down-to-earth seminar, featuring **Rabbi Nechemia Coopersmith**, is a powerful, dynamic learning experience which gives the ability to incorporate abstract concepts into one's life. Aish HaTorah Thornhill Centre, The Promenade, Suite 303. Cost is $10. For more information and to register, call 636-7530.

JEWISH WAR VETERANS

Jewish War Veterans — North York Post is having a wine and cheese party, 7-9 p.m., 788 Marlee Ave. Veterans and spouses welcome. No charge. To reserve call 736-4828.

Monday, Dec. 20

WRITING WORKSHOP

Anyone interested in creative writing is invited to the general meeting for the Writing Workshop, 7:30 p.m., JCC, Room 206. For more information call **H. Cooper**, 736-7776.

FAMILIES OF GAYS AND LESBIANS

Jewish Support Group for Families of Gays and Lesbians meets 7:30 p.m. in the foyer, Holy Blossom Temple. For more information, call, in confidence, **Ruth**, 763-9111.

RABBI MILEVSKY'S YAHRZEIT

The community is invited to commemorate the first yahrzeit of **Rabbi Uziel Milevsky**, founding dean of Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 8:30 p.m. At Ohr Somayach Thornhill, 613 Clark Ave. W. The commemoration will feature a lecture by **Rabbi Dr. Elyahyu Hartman** on the topic, Authority and Reason in Jewish Thought. Admission, free.

Wednesday, Dec. 22

JEWISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Public is invited to a Jewish Genealogical Society program entitled A Photographic Essay on the Remnants of Jewish Life and Sights in Eastern Europe, featuring professional photographer **David Blumerfeld.** Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 7:30 p.m., admission free.

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

EXTEND-A-FAMILY

North York Extend-A-Family would love to hear from compassionate people, with sensitivity and understanding towards children with physical and mental handicaps. This special friend adds to the quality of life and expands the experience of a disabled child. The time commitment must be at least three months but the hours per week can be flexible. Call the Volunteer Centre, 481-6194.

ACCESS AWARD

The City of Toronto's Action Committee for People with Disabilities (ACPD) is inviting nominations for the 1994 Access Award. Awarded annually on Civic Honors Day in early March, the Access Award recognizes a group or organization that has made a significant contribution toward improving the quality of life for residents of the City of Toronto who are disabled. Nomination forms are available from **Catherine Leitch**, Acting Coordinator, ACPD, 19th Floor, East Tower, City Hall, Toronto M5H 2N2, 392-0404; Fax, 392-0797; TDD, 392-0415.

EPILEPSY SUPPORT GROUP

An epilepsy support group meets on Sunday afternoons in North York. The focus is on sharing of experiences and information as well as stress management. For more information call **Reisa**, 889-7534.

EARL BALES PLAYGROUPS

Spaces are still left for winter and spring sessions of the co-op nursery and parent-tot programs at Earl Bales Park. Call **Rachel**, 731-7216.

BAYCREST SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Baycrest Terrace Synagogue, 55 Ameer Ave., holds Shacharit services weekdays at 8:30 a.m. and also Mincha, Maariv at 7 p.m. Shabbat services are at 9 a.m. preceded by Talmud studies with **Gershon Samonovits** at 8 a.m. For information, call **David** at 256-1600.

EMOTIONS ANONYMOUS

Emotions Anonymous, a 12-Step organization, offers self-help and a caring group environment to help you cope with your personal emotional difficulties. There is never a fee. All you need is a desire to get well. For information on meetings, call **John**, 281-3369 or Nancy , 244-3477.

CALL A NEWCOMER

The Telephone Language Companion (TLC) Program of the Community Integration Program is seeking volunteers to phone recently-arrived immigrants from the former Soviet Union. Phoners are asked to make a commitment to telephone an assigned companion twice weekly for six months to help the immigrant develop telephone skills. Call **Selena Kovshoff** at the JCC, 636-1880, ext. 261.

STUDENT ESSAY PRIZE

The American Jewish Historical Society will award the Leo Wasserman Foundation Prize of $100 for the best student essay on any aspect of American Jewish history. Contestants should be undergraduate or graduate students. The winning essay will be considered for publication in *American Jewish History*. Essays should be twenty to thirty pages in length and have appropriate citations and bibliography. To be considered for the 1994 prize, five copies of the essay should be sent to **Leonard Dinnerstein**, department of history, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721 no later than January 15. Award winner will be notified by May 15.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Holiday drivers and runners are needed from December 18-January 6, to help deliver hot meals to the seniors in the City of York. If you have some spare time, call 657-1204.

MEZUZAH MONTH

Chabad Lubavitch is sponsoring free Mezuzah house calls in January. Mezuzot will be carefully removed and checked and if necessary, help will be given to reinstall them. Should new Mezuzot be required, Chabad Lubavitch will contribute towards their cost and provide a case. To arrange an appointment, call 731-7000.

BAYCREST NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Baycrest Centre has several volunteer opportunities: People are needed to visit frail seniors in a group living residence or to teach an exercise program. If you like to prepare food, the Women's Auxiliary Cafe at Baycrest Centre will provide training in a friendly atmosphere. Hours are Sunday-Friday, 8:30 - 4:30. Pick a day or half-day. Call 785-2850 to enquire about above positions.

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW CLASSES

Winter session of Israel Youth Program Centre's conversational Hebrew course will begin January 10. This intermediate level class led by **Yael Lev** will help improve conversational skills in a fun and exciting environment through discussions, Israeli music and newspaper articles. People of all ages are welcome. Space is limited. Call 398-6931.

FREE MENTAL HEALTH WORKSHOPS

Canadian Mental Health Association is offering coping skills for families who have a member with a mental illness. An eight-session, once a week series begins in mid-January. To register, call 789-7957.

CO-PRESIDENTS

Club Beersheba of Na'amat-Toronto installed Eva Kestenberg (left) and Judith Ross as co-presidents for the 1993-95 term. (Mollie Rothman photo)

RESEARCH FAMILY TREE

North York Public Library, co-sponsored with the Toronto Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society offers a course that will show beginners how to research and organize their family trees. The eight-session program is offered both in the afternoon and in the evening. The fee is payable to the Ontario Genealogical Society. Call 395-5623 for more information.

REENA SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

Reena, a non-profit, social service agency supporting adults with developmental disabilities, has many volunteer opportunities. People are needed to work one-on-one with clients, visit and help out in a group home, escort clients to various classes and help the instructor, or work in the office. The Speakers Bureau is seeking people from all walks of life to speak to groups on behalf of Reena. For more information call **Arlene Margolese**, 787-9554.

WEEKLY PARSHA CLASS

Rabbi Bordechai Becher, Ohr Somayach, Thornhill, offers a Parsha class, Thursdays, 9 p.m., 613 Clark Ave. W. The class highlights specific topics related to the Torah and explains in philosophical terms, their deeper meanings. Public welcome, no charge.

GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL STUDENTS

The Coalition of Jewish Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Students holds weekly support group meetings with a social worker, Wednesdays, 6 p.m. in Room 2005 Vari Hall, York University. For information, call 925-XTRA, ext. 2114 for a recorded message or **Claire**, 736-5179.

JF&CS GROUPS

Jewish Family and Child Service offers the following groups: Looking Ahead, coping with separation and divorce (begins Jan. 13); Living with Teens (begins Jan. 18); Widows/Widowers (begins Jan. 17). For fee and registration information call **Pat Lieberman**, 638-7800.

DAYTIME HEBREW CLASSES

Keep up your Hebrew with **Yael Lev**, who makes the learning process fun and easy. Second term of conversational Hebrew classes, designed especially for parents who have children in the day schools will start in January. Beginners 2 and intermediate levels available. Classes offered morning or afternoon at Beth Tikvah Synagogue, 3080 Bayview Ave. For information and to register, call Yael Lev, 225-6151.

NORTHERN LIGHTS CHAPTER

The Northern Lights chapter of B'nai Brith Women of Canada holds regular program meetings on the fourth Tuesday of every month. The chapter serves northern York region including Aurora, Newmarket, Bradford/West Gwillimbury, East Gwillimbury and Keswick/Georgina. Any questions or further information about BBW, call (905)853-8755.

for seniors

Earl Bales Seniors' Club upcoming events — the movie *Funny Face*, a comedy, Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2 p.m., clubhouse; next Saturday dance, Dec. 18; next Sunday dance, Jan. 9, 7:30-10:30 p.m. in clubhouse; pre-New Years dinner/dance with kosher chicken dinner, Wednesday, Dec. 29, $20 members, $25 non-members. Tickets in

[Cont'd. on page 25]

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Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 24]

advance. For information on all activities, call club office, 395-7881.

Sunrise Group celebrates New Years in Akron, Ohio, featuring the Guse Family, Dec. 30-Jan. 1, $295 Canadian, double occupancy. Also, a Las Vegas trip, April 24-28. Call **Esther**, 223-9165 or **Sonia**, 889-9436.

Come with **Young at Heart Seniors** to Florida for two weeks to three months at the Sherry Frontenac (efficiency, package deal, $1,875, double occupancy). Call **Doreen** or **Helen**, 635-6343.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club has Florida trip in planning. Trip to Las Vegas, including kosher meals also in planning. Ongoing programs continue. For information on all activities, call **Lena**, 785-5773 or **Ruth**, 224-5923.

Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Your donations go to Laniado Hospital in Israel. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield**, 787-1526.

Club Hadar meets every Monday and Thursday, 1-4 p.m. at Garnet A. Williams Community Centre, 501 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill, Meeting Room 2. Activities include Tai Chi, painting, discussions, bingo, cards. For information, call **Violet Landman**, 886-2625.

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets 7 p.m. Wednesdays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building).

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone 225-2112.

A 12-week drawing and sketching course with instructor **Janice Hudson** begins Wednesday, Jan. 5, 1-4 p.m. Includes discussion and practical work in composition, light and shadows, perspective, still life and landscape drawing. Members, $15; non-members, $22. There will be a small materials fee.

La'Briyut Wellness Centre series presents the video, *Alcohol, Drugs and Seniors-Tarnished Dreams*, Thursday, Dec. 23, 1:30 p.m. Discussion period will follow. Admission free, everyone welcome.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew speaking adults now meets Wednesdays, 3:30-5:30.

The Friendship Circle, for people 55 and over and single, now meets every other Thursday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. Meetings are for Friendship Circle members only. The fee is $1. Refreshments are served. An Israeli musical will be screened December 23.

at the JCC

Winter Break Fun Days are fun-filled, supervised programs for children ages 5 to 10. Each day brings a new focus and new activities, including swimming, gym and a specialty workshop. $27 per day, or $20 for 8 days.

Gymnastics Winter Break Camp features instruction on floor routines, bars, trampoline and vault. Instruction is available in all levels and swimming is included. For children ages 8-12. $108 for 4 days or $200 for 8 days. For information on both camps call 924-6211.

The Jewish Theatre Committee announces its Fourth Annual Playwriting Contest, for an as yet unproduced play of Jewish content by a Canadian or Canada-connected playwright. Prize is a professionally directed, fully rehearsed public reading. Deadline for submission, February 28. Submit scripts and obtain contest rules from **Luni Bendayan**, Bloor Y Branch, 750 Spadina Ave. Toronto, M5S 2J2. Phone 924-6211.

About People

VICTORIA CITY COUNCIL

One of the eight members elected recently to the new Victoria city council is a member of the Jewish community.

Bob Friedland, part of the Victoria Civic Electors group, which is affilitaed with the NDP, won with 3,262 votes. It was his first time running in a municipal election.

New York-born Friedland moved to Canada in 1978, took his law degree at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, articling in Vancouver. He first practiced law on an Indian reserve in northern British Columbia and moved to Victoria in 1992, where he opened a law office. In 1988 he ran unsuccessfully for Parliament in an Edmonton riding.

Friedland is a member of the Jewish Community Centre in Victoria and paraticipates in a biweekly Sunday morning group which discusses domestic and world affairs.

SHOFAR AWARD PRESENTED

Robert Engel (right) receives a certificate and pin as the first Canadian recipient of the Shofar Award for Scouting from Gerda Frieberg, chair of CJC, Ontario region, and Arnold Appleton, chair of Ontario Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting. The award was given to Engel in recognition of his promotion of scouting to Jewish organizations and his encouragement of Jewish youth to join Scouts and Girl Guides. [Lewis Levendel photo]

Scouts Canada honors Engel

By LORI DENNIS

TORONTO — "Scouting is one of the best vehicles we have in this country to teach young boys Jewish values and pride, says Robert Engel, executive committee member-at-large of Scouts Canada, Greater Toronto region.

"As scouts, Jews can be proud of their heritage. We don't have to hide under a rock. Scouts teach children to be community-minded and to respect all values and religions. It's a wonderful way for us to be part of a national movement and to teach others about our culture both on a national and international level, he says.

At Toronto Scouting's recent Annual Meeting, Engel, a Willowdale resident, was awarded a lifetime membership for his many years of dedicated service. He terms himself a missionary responsible for educating rabbis and Jewish organizations about scouting, is dedicated to the cause of increasing scouting membership within the Jewish community, and has made scouting his personal lifelong mission.

Born in Germany 70 years ago, Engel began his scouting career in 1934. When he fled to Holland at age 15, he was asked by the Dutch to become part of their scouting troupe — a fateful invitation that mapped out the direction his life would take.

"These young scouts became my friends and my saviors. They accepted me for who I was and gave me a feeling of belonging. Even when I was in the concentration camp, I never felt abandoned. I knew that they were outside waiting for me. This gave me the strength I needed to survive those terrible times," he says.

"The Dutch scouts would smuggle themselves into the camp to visit me and they even brought false papers and written instructions for my escape. While I never used those papers, they gave me a sense of security that most others in the camp didn't have. Today, those papers are on display in the Holocaust Educational and Memorial Centre as a reminder that there were some good people in the world at that time."

In 1951, six years after being liberated by Canadian soldiers, Engel made his home in Montreal. Once settled, he joined the Canadian Scouts and has never looked back.

While he has run a successful clothing emporium first in Montreal and then in Toronto, Scouting has always been Engel's passion. Over the years, he has worked his way up the ranks from Cubmaster, Troop Scouter, Rover Advisor, Troop and Crew Trainer to District Commissioner, Assistant Provincial Commissioner in Montreal, and he has held many high level positions in the Greater Toronto Region, as well as provincially and nationally. He was also chair of the Jewish Advisory Committee on Scouting and a member of the Religious Partner Committee Ontario Provincial Council.

When Engel retired, he was afraid of becoming idle and offered his services to the scouts on a full-time basis. As an unpaid staff worker, he is presently co-ordinator of Hospitality and Special Services. In his spare time, he also devotes himself to Holocaust studies as past Chairman of the Holocaust Remembrance Committee and as present Chairman of the Holocaust Education Subcommittee.

Engel is dismayed by the fact that the Jewish scouting population has decreased so dramatically in the past few decades. "In Israel, there are 58,000 members — it's the largest movement in the world. In Toronto, in the 50s and 60s, there were over 20 groups; there are now only three — one at Beth Tzedec Synagogue, one at Beth Avraham on Clarke Street and a recently formed group at the Jewish Community Centre," Engel explains.

"Because we are so afraid of assimilation, we moved out of scouts and started our own religious youth groups. And with Jewish boys under so much pressure at Bar Mitzvah age, there is a tremendous drop out by the time they reach the scouting age of 11 to 14."

For Engel, there will always be a place in his heart for the scouts. And according to a press release on the recent award presentation, "Scouting does not forget its faithful sons."

BBC LUNCHEON

Dr. Neville Lamdan (second from right), director of the North American division of the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, recently spoke at a luncheon sponsored by the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai Brith Canada. Shown are (from left) luncheon planning committee member David Nadler; National Institute chair, Brian Morris; Israel Vice-Consul, Chaim Waxman; Neville Lamdan; luncheon series chair, Sharon Lavine.

SISTERHOOD CELEBRATION

Pride of Israel Synagogue Sisterhood 50th anniversary celebration was held recently at the synagogue. Shown from left, Harvey Jubas, chairman of the synagogue; Toby Steinberg, sisterhood president; Howard Green, president, Sick Benefit Society.

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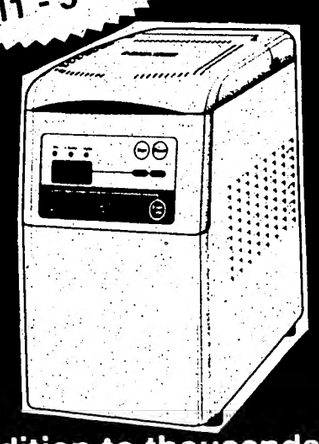

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Organizations and People

Chmielniker Society carries on heritage

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — The memory of a murdered Jewish community has been kept alive for years by members of the Chmielniker Society of Toronto.

Chmielnik, located in the southeast of Poland, was once home to more than 8,000 Jews before World War II. This was in a town of 10,000.

The Chmielniker Society is made up of those who came before the war, Holocaust survivors, their children and grandchildren.

"Heritage and roots give meaning to the past, appreciation of the present, and hope and strength for the future," says Israeli-born Joseph Mapa, the executive vice-president and chief operating officer of Mount Sinai Hospital and the vice-president of the Chmielniker Society of Toronto.

Mapa's father, Kalmen Mapa, a Holocaust survivor who went to Israel in 1948 and moved to Toronto in 1959, is an executive member of the Chmielniker.

"A very important part of our heritage is the growing involvement of more and more members of my generation to whom our parents have said 'Come join us and let us continue our Chmielniker heritage and our wonderful tradition together,' " said Joseph Mapa.

Chmielniker societies also exist in Israel, the United States, France, Argentina, Brazil and England.

The Jewish community in Chmielnik dates back to the 16th century. Despite a massacre in 1655, the community thrived. The town was known for its grain, livestock, timber and textile trades. It spawned great rabbis, yeshivot and a vibrant group of Chassidim who were among the first chassidic settlers in Safed in Israel.

Following the 1939 invasion of Poland, several hundred Jews, mostly young men and women, fled to Soviet-held territories to join the Soviet and Polish armies. Some of them rose to officer ranks and won the highest battle decorations.

Members of the Chmielniker Society executive (from left) Harvey Goldlist, Margie Levitt, Nachum Shore, Al Goldlist, Joseph Mapa, Rose Baum and Fay Goldlist.

On Oct. 1, 1942, about 1,000 young men and women were deported to the forced labor camps in Skarzysko-Kamienna, Czestochowa and to camps in Germany. Only a handful survived. A month later, the final deportation to Treblinka took place. Some fled into the forests where only a few score of them survived.

After the war, a handful of Jewish survivors tried to resettle in Chmielnik but gave up the idea because of hostility from their Polish neighbors.

"We are proud of our parents," says Joseph. "We are proud of our heritage. For these reasons, we are proud of our involvement in the Chmielniker Society."

Chmielnik — The Marketplace.

When this assignment came, I too felt a reverence for what was once my family's home. This writer's parents, Anne and William Kleinert, and maternal grandmother, Marmel Ashley (Eybeschuetz) came from Chmielnik. I well remember my bubbie telling me stories of her childhood in Chmielnik, and meetings of the Chmielniker Society. I regret I did not take more time to record her stories.

Now the children and grandchildren of the landsmanshaft are joining the Society and revitalizing the group. The new executive committee has this intergenerational component. The newly elected executive includes members of the next generation like Rose Baum, Elliot Erlichman, Harvey Goldlist, Margie Levitt, Hindy Shemesh, Hal Steinfelt and Zvi Wolfowicz. Fay Goldlist is the president of the Women's Auxiliary.

The younger members have already organized a moving Hazkarah service and are planning other meaningful activities. "We are involved in all aspects of the Society's affairs — financial, programmatic, as well as the care and maintenance of the cemetery," says Mapa.

Reflecting on the tragedy of the Holocaust, newly elected president Al Goldlist says, "We have to be thankful that we have survived and that we have families who will continue with our tradition and also will not forget their bubbies and zaydes and the rest of their relatives."

Levitt says that just hearing the name Chmielnik brings out strong feelings in her. "Knowing the people who have become my extended family — hearing the stories about life in Chmielnik before the war — somehow helps to make everything come to life for me.

"Chmielnik is no longer just a mythical town in Poland but it is part of my history. My commitment to the Society has given me an opportunity to help to preserve the past as well as to bring the past to life for my children. It is essential to pass on our history to the next generation."

Physical punishment rejected by JF&CS

[Cont'd. from page 2]

- concern and sensitivity about betraying a member of the community to "outsiders";
- an idealized concept of the close-knit Jewish home as immune to the problem;
- and the tradition of the patriarchal family structure, which may have legitimized harsh discipline.

The study takes care to draw distinctions between discipline and physical punishment. While it comes down hard on all forms of physical punishment, such as hitting, slapping, striking, shoving, shaking and other acts of aggression, it does not equate, for example, a light smack on a child's bottom with abuse.

JF&CS cites several studies which show that physical punishment of children does not facilitate learning, self-control or a closer family; it has the potential to inflict lasting psychological harm and is not effective in the long term because it may actually promote compliance based on fear.

For a copy of the study, call JF&CS at (416) 638-7800.

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WARDEN WOODS (St. Clair & Warden Ave.) (416) 750-9241
BLACK CREEK MALL (Black Creek & Rogers Rd.) (416) 652-6256

Makeup artist finds right mix

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO — It's taken years, but Ilana Harkavi, a makeup artist and entrepreneur, has successfully synthesized a demanding and glamorous career with a strictly observant Jewish lifestyle. The New York-based president and creative director of Il Makiage, whose clients include the likes of Cher and Demi Moore, spoke on Beauty, Brains and Belief at Toronto's first annual Aish HaTorah women's day held recently at Baycrest Terrace.

When Harkavi opened her first salon on New York's East Side over 20 years ago, the native Tel Avivian had little connection to Yiddishkeit. A former ballet dancer, she decided to train as a beautician following a car accident which cut short her dance career.

Before she became observant, Saturday was the busiest day at her salon, she said. These days, with 45 employees, her business is thriving despite being closed on Shabbat and Jewish holidays.

"My husband is the one who started this whole mishegas," Harkavi laughed. When he decided he wanted to keep Shabbat some 17 years ago, she thought he was "off the wall."

Harkavi stressed that her increasing observance was her own decision, although she agonized every step of the way, convinced she would lose her business when she closed on Shabbat and worried that people wouldn't comprehend her decision to cover her hair, especially given that one of Il Makiage's products was a natural henna hair color.

After her husband declared his commitment to being observant, Harkavi undertook her own spiritual quest. "I went to every shul and spoke to different rabbis, but I always came out completely disappointed. I didn't know what to ask, and they gave me nothing to pull me back."

A chance encounter with a baalat teshuvah (woman who had become observant) with whom she was acquainted, inspired Harkavi. "I saw something different about her. There was some kind of light coming through her face. I wanted to have that kind of light also."

An invitation from a Crown Heights rebbetzin to spend Shabbat with her family was the beginning of Harkavi's transformation. "There was such a warm feeling," she recalled. "I said, 'This is something I like. Maybe here I'll find what I'm looking for.' "

Harkavi and her family spent a year of Shabbats in Crown Heights, and a second year in Monsey, with "a whole other sect of Chassidim.

"We learned so much. The more I learned the more I saw how much I didn't know." Harkavi admired the knowledge of the Orthodox women and marvelled at the family togetherness she saw. When she saw three generations sitting together in synagogue, it gave her the chills, she said. In Manhattan, she recalled, she saw only the grandmothers.

Harkavi was inspired to further her own Judaic studies, and two years after the first Shabbat in Crown Heights, she felt ready to open the doors of her own home for Shabbat. "My house is always full of people," she said. "I get a kick out of people sleeping, sometimes, on the floor. I get calls from London — people say, 'We're coming.' Otherwise, I don't feel I'm doing anything for the community."

Although she says that kashering her kitchen was "a pleasure" and that her opinion of the laws of family purity has changed from "too crazy" to "God's genius," the process of change was very difficult for her. "The first three years were a horror.

"If you have any doubts, I can tell you transition is not easy, but you find a whole world."

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Unique Stockroom's hot stock is *too cool*

"Blue on blue" would be an appropriate theme song for the **UNIQUE STOCKROOM** at 370 Steeles Avenue West. But you can forget about the "heartache on heartache"; with a star-studded lineup of Levi's, Replay, Guess, Request, Buffalo, *et al* at UNIQUE (as in low) prices, the only heartaches belong to the competition.

Since arriving on the Toronto scene five years ago, the shop has carved a strong niche among free-spirited men and women of all ages looking for the latest in casual wear at the lowest "street" prices. The buck apparently stops at Unique.

Big-store clout, small-store service

"We buy with the power of a major chain [Unique has seven stores, including a massive warehouse store in Montreal]," says Derek Rea. "We give customers what they want, the latest merchandise at rock-bottom prices. We don't fool around with high prices and make them "wait for the sale". Why insult their intelligence? They're well-educated consumers who know what they want. They do us the courtesy of coming into our store to get it, so why should we discourage them from buying it **now**?"

Adding to Unique's appeal is the low-key sales staff and the upbeat New-York-soho-style decor. The walls chuckle with cartoon characters; the open-raftered ceiling echoes with the latest sounds as suspended TV screens flash the latest images. This cozy combo of futurism and funk sends a clear message: Relax, relax and . . . **RELAX!**

Operating on Unique's "ZEPP" (**Z**ero **P**ressure **P**rinciple), the experienced sales assistants are there when you need them, invisible when you don't. ESPRIT

Not just a jean store, Unique carries the latest in casual wear for men and women from frontrunners like Mexx, Levi's, Replay, Inwear, Buffalo, Request, and Guess. If you like natural fibres at unnaturally low prices, you'll enjoy Levi's 501's from $37, Buffalo Jeans at up to 40% off, and pure cotton turtlenecks from $9.98.

Levi's Dockers LEVI'S only $15.98

Levi's dockers are regularly priced at only $15.98 (compared to $25 and up in most other stores).

Unique also sells its own private label T-shirts and tank tops in 12 striking fashion colours. The "tees" are only $6 (on special at $5 until December 31), the tanks $5. The ruggedly constructed "tee" compares favourably with those sold elsewhere for $15–25! **UNIQUE**

Ladies are well-served with comfy casuals from Esprit, Mexx, and Inwear. Bodysuits ($15.98 – $35) from Dexx, Request, and Kim & Co. are a hot item, as are Non-Fiction tights.

On the dressier side, fashion blazers from $65 are a strong and affordable addition to the businesswoman's wardrobe.

Men also benefit from the Unique experience, with a dressy in-store boutique that offers pure wool slacks at $59 (reg. retail $110), suits from $139 to $238, and silk ties from $19.98 to $25. And these low prices won't prevent you from dropping names like Elfino, Perry Ellis, Looney Tune ties, Mexx, Christian Dior, and Turbulence. A Perry Ellis shirt can be had for as little as $19.98 (reg. retail $50).

"We stretch your buck" says Rea. "You can come here with $50 and leave with something tangible. Nobody likes to have that drop-in-the-bucket" feeling that most clothing stores will give you. We want to remind you of the days when fifty dollars really meant something."

In addition to clothing, Unique carries avant-garde accessories, including a selection of eye-popping belts which are anything but mainstream. "Belts give you a chance to go a little crazy", says Rea. "You've wrapped up the package in a dynamite pair of blue jeans; why skimp on the ribbon?"

The belts are – you guessed it – **UNIQUE**-ly priced. (The analogies are free).

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Canam Appraisers & Liquidators Ltd. have been in business for eight years. The president of Canam is Samuel Terry Warren; the managing director is Siavash Mizrahi.

Canam does liquidations on behalf of banks, trust companies and bankruptcy trustees—at times on its own premises, quite often on the premises of the company being liquidated, but sometimes farther off the beaten track, depending on the assignment. Canam has liquidated a wide range of businesses across Canada, both close to home and not so close: from clothing stores to furniture manufacturers, from printing shops to furriers—and on one occasion a sawmill in Alberta.

Besides working out of temporary locations, Canam operates a general wholesale warehouse as a permanent business, at 1101 Finch Ave. West, Unit 11 (near Dufferin on the south side). The warehouse carries a wide variety of products at below-wholesale prices: foods, toys, health and beauty aids, office equipment—you name it. Until the New Year, this store will remain open to the public retail trade; thereafter, it will be exclusively wholesale.

On occasion, Warren and Mizrahi will open a temporary retail store. One of the most recent assignments was a retailer of quality perfumes, Oasis Parfumerie, formerly of Lakeshore Boulevard, which went bankrupt in September of this year. BDO Dunwoody Inc. appointed Canam as liquidators; Canam then moved the inventory to 404 Steeles Ave. West, halfway between Yonge and Bathurst streets on the north side, under the name of Canam Parfumerie.

Givenchy and Dior

This store will close at Christmas. Until then, Canam Parfumerie will make available a wide range of fine quality brandname perfumes, and other cosmetics at a discount of 50 per cent off the manufacturers' suggested list price. These products are the genuine article, not copies; but the supply, like the time, is limited. Brand names include: Oscar de la Renta, Kenzo, Givenchy, Jacomo de Paris, Elizabeth Taylor, Gucci, Joy, Poison, Chanel, Lancome, Melton Brown, Dior, Clarins, and Cartier.

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Field of Greens: a natural choice for healthy food

Field of Greens, at 100 Steeles Ave. West, Unit 33, opened on Nov. 29. The store is owned by partners Mark and Suzanne. This article is based on their description of the products Field of Greens offers—and of the philosophy of life which is making these products more and more popular.

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Field of Greens' grocery selection is vegetarian: the fruits and vegetables are organically grown; the juices are organic. The store carries many natural and organic brand-name products: Eden, Lundberg, Taste Adventure, Spectrum, El Perro tofu-dogs, Nature's Warehouse fig bars, Rice Dream rice "milk", Nasoya dressings, San-J soya sauce, Lifestream cereals, and organic cheeses.

For the convenience of shoppers, all kosher products are designated as such.

Field of Greens will use colour coding to make these and other products (such as low-fat items) easily visible.

Besides food products, Field of Greens carries natural cosmetics, shampoos and body-care products by Aubrey Organics, Wala, Homeocan and Ahimasa. "You can trust that we have carefully screened all ingredients before selecting a body-care line," says Suzanne.

Field of Greens also carries a complete line of cleaning products from the Simply Clean Soap Company, gift baskets and gift items, and a selection of vitamins chosen for premium quality, reasonable price, and hypo-allergenic components.

The staff is friendly, courteous, and ready to help with questions and choices of purchase. The premises are clean, modern, and large enough to offer ample space for the range of products today's natural-food shopper requires.

The concern for quality product goes hand-in-hand with a commitment to service; Field of Greens is "customer-oriented"above and beyond what the law requires. A wheelchair-accessible bathroom is being installed, with a baby-change table; and the store will add to its services a delivery van for those who find it hard to get outdoors, especially in the winter.

Hadassim is h(e)aven for troubled teenagers

"It transformed my life." That's how Israeli actress/writer Gila Almagor described her years at Hadassim, a Canadian Hadassah-WIZO educational project.

She told a recent Toronto executive meeting that Hadassim "opened my eyes to the beauty of the world."

No wonder, since the 300-acre educational centre is set in the lush countryside northeast of Tel Aviv. Weather permitting, classes at the six-grade secondary school, which was named Israel's top high school, are often conducted outdoors.

The school has an enrolment of 1,250 including 450 youths from troubled or problem homes who board. In addition to youths from the surrounding area, the school has a dynamic mix of children from Russia, Ethiopia and other countries. About 60 families who work at the school live on campus providing a framework that functions as a family for boarding students.

Almagor was in this latter group as her widowed mother had mental health problems. She left school at 15 to pursue an artistic career that was born in the acting classes at Hadassim, which offers an array of non-mandatory subjects that round out the students' total education.

Like Almagor, Prof. Shevach Weiss credits Hadassim with opening his eyes to nature and his Polish heart to his new country.

"We came from the golah ... never saw a bird, only rats and cellars."

Hadassim teachers were positive role models and taught him to participate in the learning experience. The University of Haifa professor and former Speaker of the Knesset says he uses the same teaching methods in his own classes.

Hadassim director Tzvi Levi says that a delegation of American child welfare professionals were impressed with what can be done on a relative shoe-string budget. In the West, it would cost more than six times as much as Hadassim's $6,000 (U.S.) per child per year to "maintain top quality service."

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO opened Hadassim in 1947 to give immigrant children orphaned during the Second World War a haven. Then as now, it gives youths, such as Weiss and Almagor, whose lives have been severely disrupted, another chance.

Gila Almagor

Toronto Hadassim chair Toby Kasner says it is crucial to look for creative ways to help these "lost" children find their way.

"Hadassim provides a refuge for troubled or problem students where they can develop proper values in a nurturing, open environment.

"Although the school's academic excellence is well known and has been recognized with an award by the Israeli government, another key element of the program is to provide emotional stability that allows students to enjoy their cultural heritage."

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LifeStyle

Advertising Feature

Phantom outlet opens exciting new location in Lawrence Plaza

The only thing irregular about these pantyhose are the ridiculously low prices at which they are being sold.

Following the current trend of upscale manufacturers marketing directly to the public, Phantom®, long regarded as the premier label in Canadian hosiery, has opened a number of outlet stores in Metropolitan Toronto.

Henry Strasser, owner of the chain, said, "I wanted the customers to have the opportunity of shopping in attractive, convenient surroundings where a wide selection of hosiery, bathing suits and bodywear were offered to value conscious consumers who wanted both top quality and excellent prices."

He went on to say he was especially proud that everything sold in these stores is 100 percent Canadian made.

In addition to its newest location at Lawrence Plaza (Bathurst and Lawrence), the stores are located at Thornhill Square (Bayview and John), Dixie Value Mall in Mississauga, Warden Woods Mall in Scarborough and Black Creek Mall (Black Creek and Rogers Road).

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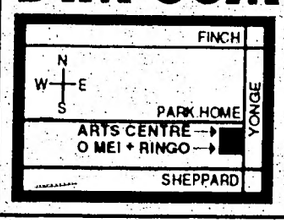

Arts

Canadian Jewish poet's work strikes a cord with Israelis

By MIRIAM SOBEL

OTTAWA — Canadian poet Seymour Mayne is becoming a writer with his literary feet planted in two worlds. An established poet in Canada, he has been publishing his work for over 35 years. But with the release in Israel last spring of *Locust Silence*, his third collection of poetry translated into Hebrew, Mayne has become something of a celebrity in that country. The book was greeted with reviews in every major Israeli newspaper and literary magazine.

Though he writes in English, Mayne says his poetry strikes a cord with Israeli readers because he is able to capture the texture of their country in his poems. He has spent about five of the last 16 years living and working in Israel, where he teaches in the Canadian Studies Program and the Institute of Contemporary Jewry at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

"There aren't many English language Jewish writers who have spent as much time as I have in Israel. And I have had the supreme compliment of being told that my poems about the landscape, the situation in Israel, are written with an immediacy and knowledge and familiarity which is similar to what an Israeli would do," says Mayne.

Mayne was raised in Montreal amid a rich mix of languages and culture.

By the time he started school, he knew English, French, Yiddish and Russian. When he got to the Jewish day school, he added Hebrew to his repertoire.

"The Hebrew we learned was academic Hebrew. It was only when I went to visit and then live in Israel that my Hebrew became what I call colloquial. . . When I first came to Israel I spoke Hebrew that was flavored with a certain Tanach flavor, a certain scriptural flavor. So I probably sounded like a throwback to the prophets."

Mayne wrote his first poem when he was about thirteen.

"Suddenly these words, this rhythm, this buzz, started in my brain," says Mayne. "Words started to appear in my consciousness. I took a pen or a pencil and wrote them down."

He continued to write every day. At 17 he entered McGill University where he studied with author Hugh MacLennan and poet Louis Dudek and he attended poetry classes at Sir George Williams University (now Concordia) conducted by Irving Layton. It was during these years that his poems began to appear in national magazines. His first collection, *That Monocycle the Moon*, was published when he was 20. His most recent English collection was *Killing Time* (1992, Mosaic Press, Oakville, Ont.).

Poems still come to Mayne in the same insistent way as the first one, although less often than they used to. A busy professional life as a professor of Canadian literature and creative writing at the University of Ottawa uses a large measure of his creative energy.

"It still amazes me that in the midst of the high pressure of everyday life, suddenly a poem is given to me, because that's how I feel, that it's given to me. . . Suddenly it comes out on the page and it has esthetic order and it seems to be almost fully realized. There is obviously some part of my mental world which is working day and night, and from time to time I enjoy the fruits of it. The very best poems just spring to mind."

Poetry is an intense business, says Mayne, and most need to do more than write poems. Mayne has edited collections of poetry, started several small presses, writes reviews and scholarly articles, and has done several translations of Yiddish poetry. He sits on the editorial board and was a co-founder of *Parchment*, an annual anthology of Canadian Jewish literature, which published its second volume this year.

Mayne's most recent book, *Night Prayer and Other Poems* (Mosaic Press), recently launched at the Jewish Book Week activities in Toronto,is a collection of poems by Melech Ravitch, which Mayne translated from the original Yiddish.

Mayne has a deep affection for the Montreal where he grew up. He credits his parents for giving him a strong sense of Jewishness, the Jewish Public Library for nurturing his respect for language and literature, and the Jewish day school which taught him about scholarship. By the time he finished public school, Mayne knew he wanted to be a teacher.

"It is a calling. It is not just a job. It's something that I love doing and I also believe I have a very important function. I want to help in the transmission of the culture of this country to the young who come to study," says Mayne about being a professor.

Though Mayne loves the time he spends in Israel and is flattered by the attention his books have received there, he plans to stay in Canada.

"I'm in this enviable position. I can come for a time and they embrace me, but I wonder if I went for more than one year or two at a time, if I'd be as familiar as the next person. Would they embrace me with such fervor? I think in a way I thrive on this living in two worlds."

His Excellency Bjorn Olson (left), Ambassador of Denmark to Canada and Charles Harnick, MPP, are flanked by two Danish guardsmen as they cut the ribbon opening the Resistance and Rescue photo exhibit in Toronto recently.

Photo exhibit draws over 3,000

TORONTO — Resistance and Rescue, a photo exhibit commemorating the 50th anniversary of the rescue of Danish Jews by their countrymen, drew record attendance.

More than 3,000 people viewed the black-and-white photos by Judy Ellis Glickman during its week-long run at the Jewish Community Centre North branch.

The exhibit was officially opened by Danish ambassador Bjorn Olson and MPP Charles Harnick. A capacity crowd of over 500 people attended.

Keynote speaker was Leo Goldberger, professor of psychology at New York University and himself a child survivor of the Danish rescue.

The exhibit was sponsored by the Holocaust Remembrance Committee of the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto in association with the Jewish community Centre of Toronto.

'Marble man's' art still vivacious

By AMY SATTIN

TORONTO —

Stanley Boxer may be known to some as a "marble man," but there is nothing stone-hearted about this American artist.

Boxer, 67, is an abstract painter and sculptor whose works grace some of the most prestigious private and public collections in North America, including New York City's Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, Whitney Museum of American Art and Museum of Modern Art; the Albright-Knox Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y.; and the Edmonton Art Gallery.

The term "marble man" was bestowed upon Boxer by a family of Sicilian artisans in recognition of his skill as a stone carver. Boxer says the words have great meaning. "It's the Congressional Medal of Honor for marble carvers."

The artist is represented in Canada exclusively by Gallery One, a Toronto art gallery owned by sisters-in-law Goldie Konopny and Sharon Fischtein.

Boxer first showed his paintings at the Yorkville space in 1980, and has since mounted a solo exhibit there every 16 to 20 months on average. This is in addition to the three other solo shows Boxer does every year. For a man past retirement age, he has no plans to slow down.

"No artist retires," he says. "Without it I'm nothing. You can't dissociate yourself from your breath and still live."

Boxer was born in New York City, the son of Jewish immigrants from Russia and Poland, and lives there with his wife and fellow artist, Joyce Weinstein. In a phone interview, he says his background has never influenced his art: "I'm a painter who happens to be Jewish, that's all."

Boxer instead gravitated towards New York school of color field painting, which developed from the work of artists like Mark Rothko and Hans Hoffman. He had his first exhibition in 1953.

His Canadian shows have been well-received. "Stanley has sold steadily for the last 13 years," Konopny says. Konopny says a Boxer painting bought in 1980 for $4,000 is now worth $15,000.

She estimates that close to 400 people came by the gallery during his most recent showing in October. The show contained 15 canvases painted between 1991 and 1993; the largest, an 80- by 50-inch painting titled *Amarblemansglorias*, was priced at $22,000.

Konopny says only two of the smaller paintings sold during the six-week exhibition, a big contrast to the pre-recession days when "in three weeks, two-thirds were sold." She hopes to place the remainder within six months.

Gallery register Lorie Wright says that like his contemporaries — Helen Frankenthaler, Kenneth Nolland, Jack Olitski and Robert Motherwell — Boxer has an excellent understanding of how to mix color.

In the 1992 *Forgottenclamorharvest*, streams of purple and blue meet against a field of red textured by sawdust. Wright and Konopny say the use of mixed media represents a new development for the artist.

"He's finding natural materials — dust, granite, glitter — to incorporate into his paintings," says Konopny.

"They're so playful for a man who's almost 70. They're wonderful and vivacious."

Boxer says he will keep on exploring, going "where the art takes me. I get tired when I'm *not* doing it."

The marble man is very much alive.

Director hopes to remount play

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO — A Montreal Jewish actor-director is hoping to find a safe harbor in Toronto after many years of trouping in the United States.

Howard Kane's first venture here was *And The Winner Is...*a musical based on songs in Tony award winning shows, which ran at the Delta Chelsea Inn until Nov. 14.

He conceived and directed the show, featuring eight Canadian singers, and wrote the music for the opening number. He hopes to remount the show again in Toronto.

The son of Ben Kane, 80, of Montreal, a retired manufacturer, and the grandson of Eva Geasser whose husband operated Harry's Bargain Basement Store, Kane was born in Cote Ste. Luc and attended John Abbott High School in Montreal. He completed his theatrical training at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York.

A resident actor-director at the Actors' Theatre of Nantucket for three seasons, his directorial credits include *Same Time Next Year, Steel Magnolias, The Sound of Music* and *A Chorus Line*. It was while living in New York that Kane developed and staged *And The Winner Is...* for the first time.

He had a brief whirl at show business in Toronto earlier when he appeared in *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum* at the Leah Posluns Theatre and in *Anne of Green Gables*.

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Arts

Spielberg's Schindler's List a riveting movie

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

He who saves one life, saves the world.

That talmudic proverb applies in spades to Oskar Schindler (1908-1974), a Righteous Gentile who saved more than 1,000 Polish Jews during the Holocaust.

Schindler, an ethnic German from the Sudetenland, was a paradoxical figure. A guileful war profiteer, he was a Nazi party member (whose jacket was always adorned with a pin emblazoned with the swastika), a bon vivant and a shameless adulterer.

And yet, he sacrificed his ill-gotten fortune, and risked his life, for the sake of rescuing Jews from the blazing furnaces of Auschwitz.

In 1982, Thomas Keneally, the Australian novelist, immortalized him in his perceptive book, *Schindler's List*. Now Steven Spielberg, arguably Hollywood's most accomplished director, brings him to the big screen.

Playing at Cineplex Odeon theatres, *Schindler's List* is far and away Spielberg's most Jewish film to date. Who could have imagined that Spielberg, whose reputation rests on the likes of *ET* and *Jurassaic Park*, among others, would have been attracted to a theme suffused with Jewish suffering.

But having taken on such a daunting challenge, Spielberg makes the best of it in this epic-length, heartfelt, tasteful and absolutely riveting movie, which, appropriately, he dedicates to the six million.

In *Schindler's List*, which was filmed in Poland, Croatia, Britain and Israel, Spielberg paints a graphic picture of the Holocaust as it unfolds in the Krakow ghetto, the Pleszow slave labor camp, Auschwitz and Schindler's armaments factory-cum-sanctuary in his native Czechoslovakia.

It is shot largely in black and white, a technique that endows it with verisimilitude. Color is used to good effect in tracking the ultimately tragic fate of a little Jewish girl in a maroon jacket and in linking the past in Poland with the present in Israel.

Although I cannot vouch for the accuracy of Spielberg's portrayal of Schindler, everything else seems historically correct, from the squalor of the teeming ghetto to the spectacle of bemused German soldiers shearing off the beard of a hapless Jew.

Throughout *Schindler's List*, we're riveted by intense scenes of brutal Nazi roundups and rampages, of Germans shooting Jewish escapees in a dank sewer, of a spectral, smoke-spewing locomotive-drawn train pulling into Auschwitz at night with its helpless human cargo, of half-crazed, naked women being herded into a gas chamber, of frightened children being torn loose from their anguished mothers' grasps.

At other times, Spielberg uses simple though powerful imagery to convey the chilling horror of the Holocaust — a cobblestone street littered with half-opened suitcases in the aftermath of a Nazi raid; a dim warehouse filled with the detrius of death: piles of stolen clothes, gold teeth and menorahs.

He spares no effort to capture telling details — the flickering, satanic smile of an SS man; the hands of doomed Jews poking through the slits of a freight car; the belching chimney of Auschwitz; the dying smoke of a sabbath candle which merges with the white steam of an incoming locomotive. And the sets, particularly those of Auschwitz and Pleszow, seem as genuine as the real thing.

Ben Kingsley (sitting) and Liam Neeson in Schindler's List.

The cast is superb, though I was thrown by the Israeli accents of actors who are supposed to be Polish Jews.

In a virtuoso performance, Liam Neeson plays the conniving, hedonistic, heart-of-gold Schindler, who makes a killing producing pots and pans and crockery for the German army.

Schindler raises money for his Krakow plant through unorthodox means. And he endears himself to the German high command by ostentatious shows of "gratitude" — bribes and gifts, as well as raucous parties featuring the finest wine, women and food.

With regard to Jews, he is no philanthropist. He prefers Jewish workers because they are cheaper than Poles, and he protects them because it is "good for business." Schindler complains loudly when, after a Nazi roundup, he loses several production days.

It isn't clear why a calculating man like this would risk life, limb and livelihood to protect Jews he can easily replace. It will remain one of the conundrums of the Holocaust. But Schindler is certainly an angel. He stops an Auschwitz-bound transport to pluck a prized employee from a cattle car. He re-routes another train after bribing a high-ranking SS officer.

Neeson brings immense strength of character and sly playfulness to a difficult role. He is memorable.

Ben Kingsley portrays Itzhak Stern, the wise ghetto accountant and productive plant manager who funnels Jews into the safety of Schindler's factory by classifying them as "essential workers." Kingsley is strong and effective, a stolid counterpoint to Neeson.

The unknown Ralph Fiennes, as the sadistic but pliable SS commander Amon Goeth, is excellent. In fact, he almost steals the movie from Neeson.

Goeth is a killer hell-bent on wiping out Krakow's Jewish community. There are two chinks in his armor: his insatiable appetite for bribes and his romantic ardor for Helen, a Jewish woman whom he employs as a maid and a cook.

In one tense scene, he claims that Helen, being Jewish and therefore beyond the pale, is not "a person in the strictest sense of the word." Then, dropping his guard, he insinuates that he doesn't really buy racist Nazi ideology. But finally, despairing of ever having a relationship with Helen, he slaps her, calling her a "Jewish bitch."

It's an unforgettable moment, and screenwriter Steven Zaillian can take much of the credit for it.

The final sequences are problematical, though moving. They smack of artifice rather than art, and cut abruptly from drama to documentary. Perhaps, under the special circumstances, they are justifiable. But Spielberg would have acquitted himself better had he found a different, more creative solution to end the film.

Yet compared to the authoritative sweep of *Schindler's List*, this is a relatively minor caveat. In the final analysis, it's a triumph of filmmaking and a testament to the human spirit under incredible duress.

Forget the dinosaurs. Spielberg has moved way beyond the land of make-believe.

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EYE ON ARTS

Organizers of the **Toronto Jewish Film Festival,** which made its very successful premiere last summer with more than 7,000 attendees in total, is gearing up for a second season, featuring a full week of programming from Thurs. Apr. 28 to Thurs. May 5 (dark Shabbat).

"Toronto is now on the map as a Jewish Film Festival town," says a recent newsletter referring to similar festivals in San Francisco, New York and Boston.

Designs for a poster are being accepted until Jan. 31. The poster should be vertical, 17 by 22 inches, use a maximum of three colors and should "express the diversity of the Jewish experience." For more information on the poster or the Festival, phone 324-8226 or write 88 Prince Arthur Ave., Main Floor, Toronto M5R 1B6.

* * * * *

Besides a full subscription series, the **Leah Posluns Theatre** runs numerous classes in the dramatic arts. Beginning mid-January are courses on Creative Drama for children; Beginners Acting for teens and young adults; Film and Television for teens; and Acting Techniques, Improvisation and Scene Study for adults. As well, a Summer Stage Program for children and teens begins in July. Call 636-1880, ext. 287 or 298.

* * * * *

"We're a small organization that tries to encourage dialogue between Palestinians and Jews," says Janet Horowitz, a supporter of a unique Arab-Jewish Israeli village called Neve Shalom/Wahat al-Salam. The village has been nominated four times for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Recently the U.S. publishing house Scholastic Inc. released *Oasis of Peace*, an attractive children's book about the village. In photographs and words, the book documents a friendship between two boys, Arab and Jew. The book is available at the Children's Bookstore and other locations.

* * * * *

Advt. Advt.

Leisure Pleasures

By VIVIENNE MUHLING 422-2331

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Crazy For You

Crazy For You offers a collection of classic songs by George and Ira Gershwin. It begins previews Dec. 20 at the Royal Alexandra Theatre.

The Canadian premiere of a somewhat less cheery theatrical production was announced recently by Eclectic Theatre, which plans to bring the Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman play *Assassins* to the Canadian Stage Berkeley Street Theatre in May. The play explores the motives and psyches of successful and would-be U.S. presidential assassins.

The Quarrel

Silver Screen:

Congratulations go to David Brandes, writer and director of *The Quarrel*, a film which recently won a Chris Award for Best Adapted Screenplay at the Columbus International Film and Video Festival in Los Angeles. The film, which features actors Saul Rubinek and R.H. Thomson, brings to the screen a haunting story by Yiddish writer Chaim Grade, who deserves more attention from Jewish readers everywhere. For a special treat, read Grade's short story *The Rebbetzin* in his *Rabbis and Wives* trilogy. It's one of the best stories you'll ever read.

Speaking of writers, let me squeeze in this item about the Jewish Theatre Committee's Fourth Annual Playwriting Contest. It's open to all Canadian or Canada-connected playwrights who have written an as-yet-unproduced play of Jewish content. The prize is a professionally directed, fully rehearsed public reading. Deadline is Feb. 28. Contact Ms. Luni Bendayan, Bloor Y Branch, 750 Spadina Ave., Toronto M5S 2J2. Phone: 924-6211.

Arts

Canadian maestro Uri Mayer to conduct Israel Sinfonietta

By MARA KOVEN

LONDON — Ah, the life of a maestro. One weekend in Tel Aviv, the next in Edmonton, Bucharest or London. Leading world-renowned orchestras, enlightening audiences and making fine music.

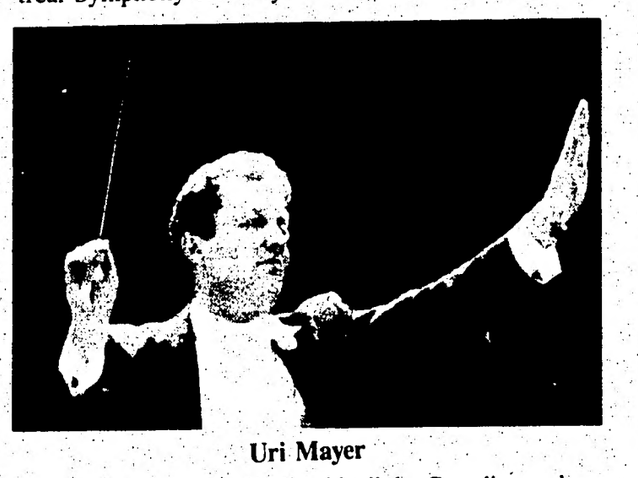
But try fitting in a family and home life.

"It's a hard balance to achieve," says conductor Uri Mayer, but he is dedicated to both.

After six years as the music director of Orchestra London and 12 at the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Mayer is returning to his roots to conduct the Be'ersheva-based Israel Sinfonietta.

However, Mayer's residence will remain in Canada. He is moving to Toronto from Edmonton with wife Neria to be closer to their daughters, Michal and Tamar, who are in school there.

Born in Romania and raised in Israel, Mayer studied viola at the Tel Aviv Conservatory of Music before completing his studies at the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. He was the associate conductor of the Montreal Symphony for 11 years.



Uri Mayer

Mayer performs regularly with all the Canadian orchestras as well as several U.S. and European orchestras. Like most successful musicians, the airport has become a second home.

So what exactly does a music director do besides conduct the orchestra? Mayer explains the position involves "essentially, everything to do with the artistic side of the orchestra. It's a significant role involving hiring musicians, determining and planning the performances."

Mayer has strong beliefs about how an artist needs to develop musically. "It is crucial for an artist to study world history, as well as one's current surroundings. The problem is that there isn't enough time to learn this and other art forms. We are looking at a repertoire of 300 years."

He say studying history "gives one an approach toward understanding how to interpret form and style."

Orchestra London recently opened its season with two familiar pieces, Mozart's *Magic Flute* overture and Beethoven's *Symphony Number Five*. Many orchestras struggle with the need to balance well-known material with lesser known or new works. Mayer understands this dilemma and strives for that balance. He says he has lost track of how many times he's performed Beethoven's *Fifth Symphony*, but each time "there is always something new to discover, a subtle nuance or a different stress."

Performance is only way to draw audiences, says Mayer. Marketing, type and size of the hall are also factors. Money is an issue. Edmonton can support 56 full-time musical positions with another 20 part time. London has 29 positions and several part-time positions depending on the requirements of the performance.

Mayer says he is leaving London and Edmonton because "people and organizations need renewal. The average length of stay as musical director is six years. Leonard Bernstein stayed in New York City 12 years. That's a long time." Mayer explains that change enables a director and the organization to explore new repertoires and work with new people.

The Israel Sinfonietta has new people. Half of the orchestra is composed of musicians who have immigrated to Israel in the past three years from Moscow, Leningrad and Vladivostock. "Their training is very good yet their approach to music making is classical and needs a Western style. This means it needs to be lighter with more transparency," Mayer says.

The Israel Sinfonietta is a 40-member chamber orchestra which performs year round. This is highly unusual in the orchestra world. Only two dozen orchestras worldwide have the luxury of a 52-week season. Although the Israel Sinfonietta is based in Be'ersheva, it performs in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and tours throughout Europe and North America.

Mayer has been the musical director of the Israel Sinfonietta since 1991 and will return to address an old Israeli wound. For many Israelis, playing Richard Wagner's music is untenable since Wagner, a German composer, was the Third Reich's official favorite. People across the country have debated whether the Israel Philharmonic should be allowed to play the music of someone who represented such hate.

Mayer has strong feelings on the subject. "Even as the son of Holocaust survivors, I urge that we cannot cut out the music or be captured by people who wronged us. Wagner is a symbol of Nazis' hate of the Jews, and yet his music is wonderful. Many artists were anti-Semites and we still play their music. Where do we draw the line?"

Mayer recently spoke to the Ministry of Education in Israel, who confirmed to him that there is no state policy against playing Wagner. "It is the decision of each musical organization," he states.

Throughout musical history, string instruments and Jews seem to have blended together. Mayer recounts one famous violinist's explanation. "Jews became violinists so that when they ran for their lives they didn't have much baggage and could still make a living."

But for Mayer, being Jewish has never been a detriment. While some minorities change their names to avoid conflict or discovery, Mayer feels being Jewish is part of his psyche. "It is part of who I am, and I'm proud of that."

Books

By BERNARD BASKIN

The Last Book You'll Ever Read by Frank Ogden, Macfarlane Walter & Rose $24.95 (book plus disk package)

In predicting the future everyone has amateur standing. But Frank Ogden is a highly regarded Canadian futurist — informed, creative and imaginative — whose exciting predictions about the world of tomorrow must be seriously considered.

"Dr. Tomorrow," as he is known, is in constant demand as a speaker and consultant to corporations, professional organizations and government agencies. He insists we must be prepared for the future because we are going to spend the rest of our lives there.

Some of his predictions in *The Last Book You'll Ever Read* include the following:

- Before the middle of the 21st century, children will be born outside of the womb.
- Present styles and types of governments will gradually disappear. China, India, Canada, the United States, Britain and Brazil will break up, much like the former Soviet Union.
- People will input data computers and edit videos with thought waves. "They'll be creating artistic masterpieces without physically touching canvas, clay or a musical instrument." Ogden is certain this new creativity will change the world more than Gutenberg's discovery of printing.
- Universal translating machines — digitized and voice synthesized — will enable people who speak different languages to quickly understand each other. It will no longer be necessary to expend time and mental energy to study and learn new languages. The Japanese telephone system, for example, will soon be able to translate conversations in six languages simultaneously.
- The labor union as we know it is doomed as the labor force will undergo astonishing changes. More workers will become self-employed. Secretaries, word processing and even post offices will become redundant as more and more businesses send information electronically.
- Robots with built-in intelligence will supplant people and create problems of employment. Workerless factories will become commonplace.
- DNA profiling will provide positive personal identification. All forensic scientists will need will be the smallest shred of bodily tissue.
- Books will be replaced by discs which will eliminate printing, binding, costly marketing and the need for an expensive distribution system. In the electronic filing system of tomorrow, one 12-inch optical storage disk will be able to contain the entire Edmonton library of one million volumes.
- The educational system will no longer rely on textbooks which become obsolete the day they are written and sometimes take as long as eight years to make their way through the complex North American educational pipeline.
- By the end of the decade video conferencing will take the sting out of travel.
- Rapid advances in biotechnology will trigger world-wide changes in morals, sexual behavior, family patterns as well as new approaches to medicine and religion.

Just to drive his point home, Ogden has attached a disk to the inside cover of his book which contains its entire contents.

Albert Einstein mused, "I never think about the future, it comes soon enough." That is, of course, true but *The Last Book You'll Ever Read* is an absorbing distillation of innovative and highly original perspectives on how the future may look and affect us all. But skeptical readers will take it all with the usual amount of salt.

Exciting look at world of tomorrow

Grandmother story relentlessly powerful

By LIZ RUCKER

TORONTO — As could be expected of a story about one's grandmother, the story that playwright Diane Flacks tells in *She Sleeps* is a deeply personal one. It also is relentlessly powerful.

She Sleeps is the second in a series of three provocative new works directed by Tom Diamond at the Studio Theatre at York University. The series is called *The Sleep Project*.

In *She Sleeps*, Flacks uses sleep as an idiom for death. She has done so in an effort to bear witness "before the last surviving members of a generation of family disappeared."

The life she documents is that of Helen, her "great-boubi," played tenderly by Danielle Wilson. Helen is a survivor of the concentration camps who finds herself unable to walk with the living. Death calls to her in the form of phantoms and "golems" but never fulfills its promise.

Perhaps the strongest aspect of the play is its use of image. The play takes on the feel of an unsettlingly dream, moving through time lyrically. The only set pieces are a huge luminous round white bed backed by an equally large tilted mirror. This bed carries Helen through life to death along with her husband Altar, played by Andrew Simms. The bed becomes the space where they search out their lives, a place where life and death flirt endlessly in sleep and sex. Helen and Altar never leave the bed. Other characters walk around it, gazing up at them.

Another rift that Helen endures is generational. She does not understand the world that Lydia (Rachelle Kongsberg), her great niece, lives in. Abortion, sexual orientation, even the validity of the Holocaust are irreconcilable barriers. Lydia's lover Shirley (Skya Brain) shouts at Altar: "There are other holocausts happening all the time."

This play was written in the effort of dispelling this rift. It has succeeded, at least for this play-goer, by its profound honesty and eloquence.

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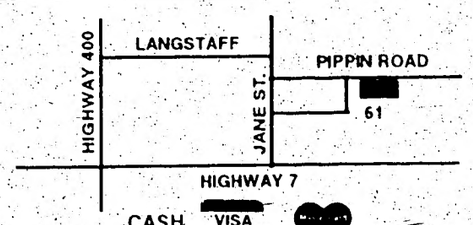

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Travel

Moscow's Red Square still impressive

By SHELDON KIRSHNER

MOSCOW — With a population of nine million, Moscow is enormous, with broad, sterile boulevards, gray wedding-cake buildings, dull storefronts and a numbing homogeneity.

Paris or London it's not.

But Moscow, for all its drabness, is still a city worth visiting, mainly because of Red Square, its signature landmark.

Anchored by St. Basil's Cathedral, an astonishingly beautiful example of Slavic ecclestiastical architecture, Red Square is nothing if not imposing.

Historically the centre of Moscow, it was a bustling market in the 15th century, the site of pageants in the succeeding centuries and, after the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution, the seat of government and the venue of parades trumpeting communism.

Today, Red Square remains a magnet for tourists despite the demise of Soviet communism in 1991.

The first impression of Red Square is one of vastness. It was obviously meant to awe, if not to intimidate. And in this respect, it succeeds.

On one side are the high battlemented walls of the Kremlin, concealing bell towers and a series of historic buildings housing state offices and museums.

The focus of Red Square is the Lenin Mausoleum, containing the mummified body of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, the widely revered Soviet leader who died in 1924.

The honor guard outside the tomb is gone, having been removed on orders of Russian president Boris Yeltsin after the unsuccessful right-wing parliamentary coup in October. And the queues no longer snake around the red-brick walls of the Kremlin. Nevertheless, there is a mystique about this place, transcending time and politics.

Within the inner sanctum, in a glassed-in catafalque, lies the waxen, goateed Lenin. He is dessed in a white shirt, blue polka-dot tie and dark blue business suit. He looks unreal, like a doll.

Sombre guards in greatcoats and boots keep the curious moving. The mausoleum leads into a garden in the shadow of the Kremlin. Here, amid neatly-clipped grass, pine trees and sprays of flowers, is a simple cemetery with the remains of Soviet leaders and sympathizers, including Josef Stalin, Leonid Brezhnev, John Reid and Clara Zetkin.

The next stop is St. Basil's, the oldest structure in Red Square, dating back to the mid-16th century.

Now a museum, St. Basil's is truly a sight to behold, what with its phantasmagorical onion domes.

The long, neo-classical building to its immediate left is the old GUM state department store. Now privatized, GUM today is a mall which bears a passing resemblance to Toronto's Eaton Centre.

But GUM is a pale imitation of the Eaton Centre. It is shabby, despite a recent restoration, with an embarrassingly small selection of goods and outlandish prices.

Once you've seen Red Square, head for the Arbat, a pedestrian thoroughfare in the heart of Moscow which marked its 500th anniversary in 1993.

Once home to the likes of novelist Nikolai Gogol, film director Sergei Eisenstein and composer Sergei Rachmaninoff, the Arbat is flush with fine handicraft shops, street vendors, Western-style cafes and a McDonald's, which is enormously popular in Moscow.

It's also worth visiting Moscow's best food store, Yelisievsky, housed in an amazingly ornate 19th-century building with heavy chandeliers. Look for the $3 tins of black caviar, an unbelievable bargain in North American terms.

Someone who hasn't been in Moscow since the late 1980s will be surprised by the proliferation of kiosks. Dispensing newspapers, sweets, liquor and tobacco, they brighten up a cityscape that is otherwise bleak.

Moscow's subway, with its deep, fast escalators, has always been the talk of the town. The stations are clean and decorous, even artful. And the trains are punctual.

Whenever possible, avoid taxis. They will take you for a ride, at least in the figurative sense of the word.

In a city brimming with shysters, caution is advised. One instructive example:

I stopped to buy a copy of the *Moscow Times*.

"How much?"

"Two dollars."

'I'll pay in roubles," I said.

"Five hundred," the vendor replied.

I fished 175 roubles, less than 10 cents, out of my pocket.

"OK," he said.

As I strode away, he called out, "Welcome to Moscow!"

Sheldon Kirshner flew to Moscow with Lufthansa Airlines via Toronto and Frankfurt. Lufthansa has regularly scheduled flights to Russia.

TRAVEL TALK

By BILL GLADSTONE

The Nov. 29 cover of *Time* magazine featured a likeness of the founder of psychoanalysis with the caption, "Is Freud dead?" in conscious parody of the magazine's well-remembered "Is God Dead?" cover of April 1966.

Sigmund Freud died in London in 1939 of throat cancer. He had left his native Vienna a year earlier. His former homes are now museums that illuminate his life and the psychoanalytic movement he founded.

The famous couch upon which psychoanalysis was born now reposes in London. So do the 2,000 or so classical, Egyptian and Oriental antiquities that Freud prized, as well as the greater part of his library and much of the household furnishings from Vienna.

"The family was able to take all their possessions from Vienna with them, which was very unusual for Jews at that time," says Erica Davies, acting director of the Freud Museum in London (20 Maresfield Gardens, Hampstead NW3).

The museum, which opened in 1986, was the home of Freud's daughter Anna, a psychoanalyst in her own right. She died in 1982. More than 12,000 people visit the museum each year.

The other Freud museum was converted from his flat at 19 Berggasse in the ninth district of Vienna, where he lived and practiced for nearly half a century. The intimate museum there, called Sigmund Freud House, is filled with books, furniture, small statues, paintings and other genuine Freudiana. The museum also houses an important research library and publishes an international journal.

The room where Freud treated his first psychiatric patients is now the office of the museum's general secretary, Ingrid Scholz-Strasser. According to Scholz-Strasser, the Viennese remain fiercely proud and possessive of the Freud legend. Last year, posters all over town promoted the big splashy musical *Freudiana* at the historic Theatre an der Wien. Despite ticket prices of $85 and up, the play enjoyed a long profitable run, during which the Hotel Bristol offered a nightly "Freudiana" post-theatre dinner.

How might Freud have perceived *Time*'s untimely cover? Possibly just as he would have regarded its April 1966 precursor, evidence of society's repressed patricidal tendencies.

* * * * *

Vienna's Jewish Museum, Zentralfriedhof (Central Cemetery) and the elegant Stadtempel (old synagogue, dating from 1825) are important sites of Jewish interest in the Austrian capital. Don't be put off by the armed guards that patrol outside the synagogue: they were posted there after a terrorist attack in the 1970s.

After seeing the synagogue, visit Arche Noah (Seitenstettengasse 2), the cosy kosher restaurant around the corner. *Heritage and Mission: Jewish Vienna* is the name of a lavish 12-page brochure that describes the city's 10 centuries of rich but ultimately tragic Jewish history. To receive a complimentary copy, write to Jewish Welcome Service, A-1010 Vienna, Stephansplatz 10, Austria.

* * * * *

Friedensreich Hundertwasser, who at 65 is Austria's foremost artist, is partly Jewish, and that's as good an excuse as any to include the KunstHaus, the Viennese museum devoted to his work, in this week's column. Hundertwasser's trademark forms are as recognizable in his paintings as they are in his architecture.

Having banished any influence of the straight-rule, the Vienna-born artist adopted the spiral as a sort of esthetic template. Opened in 1991, the Kunsthaus's walls are purposely uneven and its tiled floors irregular. The building is like a magical house belonging to a troll, or a set from a medieval fairy tale. Filled with canvases and architectural models, it houses the only permanent collection of the artist's work.

Hundertwasser, who likes to do a thing once and then move on, designed several distinctive residences in Vienna, and redesigned St. Barbara's Church in Bauernbach, all of which draw many visitors. Ever the environmentalist, he beautified a highly visible municipal incinerator in the Austrian capital several years ago, inadvertently creating a local stir.

Hundertwasser lost part of his family in the Holocaust. In his museum, see his ponderous attempts to combine Jewish and Arabic design elements. The KunstHaus, Untere Weissgerberstrasse 13, Vienna 1030.

* * * * *

Parting note: Thanks to the many readers who informed me that barches, a foodstuff mentioned here several weeks ago, is actually none other than challah.

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Curacao's white sandy beaches just part of island's attraction

By MARC HUBER

CURACAO — For years Curacao's tourism consisted largely of cruiseship daytrippers who trekked ashore to shop for the day at the island's duty free shops. However these bargain hunters usually didn't have time to explore Curacao's other sights.

Actually, until the decline of nearby Venezuela's petroleum industry, tourism wasn't a priority. Now tourism sustains the most employment on the island. Just now word is getting out about Curacao's natural attractions like its 38 sandy white beaches.

Despite it's well-developed infrastructure, Curacao, a federation of four other islands comprising the Dutch Antilles, is still relatively unspoilt. The island's architecture blends Dutch designs in a Caribbean setting. There are only 12 hotels scattered around the 38-mile long, two-seven-mile wide island.

Most of the hotels have their own private beaches providing watersports, bars and pools. But the real treats are Curacao's natural beaches just a short 15-45 minute drive from downtown Willemstad. Westpunt Beach's small beach is framed by large cliffs overlooking the blue water. Divers jump from the cliffs each Sunday. Playa Lagun has a tiny cove featuring Curacao's best snorkelling. With live music and dancing on weekends, Big Knip is the party beach. Unlike most of the island's public beaches, there are change facilities and a snack bar.

The Curacao Caribbean Hotel's small, natural beach on Piscadera Bay faces a tranquil swimming cove surrounded by the ruins of an old fort. Formerly a Hilton, this hotel has completed extensive renovations and early next year is opening the island's largest casino. The resort has extensive recreational facilities and programs, including happy hours twice a day featuring blue drinks.

The blue drink's birthplace can be found in downtown Willemstad, a 10-minute drive from Piscadera Bay.

Since 1896, Senior & Co. has been using its copper still inside Chobolobo landhuis to produce Curacao liqueur from dried orange peels.

Valencia orange plants were planted by the island's original Spanish colonists. But different soil and climate conditions transfrormed the juicy fruit into a bitter, virtually inedible orange that even the island's wild goats refused to eat. After the project was abandoned, the fruit grew wild and earned its own biological name, Citrus Aurantium Currassuviensis. Eventually, Dutch settlers discovered that an aromatic oil could be yielded from the bitter orange's dried peels.

The landhuis is open weekdays for demonstrations and sampling.

While originally claimed by the Spanish, the island was soon abandoned because of the absence of gold and fertile soil. Curacao became a Dutch dependency in 1634.

Old colonial homes

On a day long drive around the island's countryside, old colonial homes known as landhuisen serve as a reminder of Curacao's plantation past. One landhuis is named for a cruel 17th century slavemaster, Jan Kock. The landhuis is supposed to be haunted by angry slaves tortured on the plantation. The present owner, Jeannette Leato, now runs weekend tours with outdoor pancake brunches.

Parts of the island are almost desert-like with 15 varieties of cacti growing as large as trees. The north end of the hilly island is heavily forested with giant cacti, the lateral branches of divi-divi trees shaped by the constant breeze of north-east tradewinds, mesquite plants and many flowers.

Christoffel National Park protects almost half of this area in its 4,500 acre sanctuary. Most visitors to the park join a daily afternoon hike to the water reservoir to wait for some of the park's 70 white tail deer, a species indigenous to Curacao. The park has three road tours and a three-hour roundtrip hike to the top of Mt. Christoffel, the island's highest point. Over 170 species of birds have been spotted along the trail.

The Curacao Underwater Park protects 1,500 acres of coral reef and more than 1,000 acres of inner bay around the eastern coast's peaceful water. There are 16 divespots marked by mooring buoys and a number of unmarked sites. Some of the park's best diving is in shallow water.

The Curacao Seaquarium displays some of the park's marine life. This facility is the only public aquarium in the world where sea creatures are raised and cultivated totally by natural methods. The seaquarium pumps unfiltered water from the Caribbean to duplicate all of the conditions and nutrients of the sea water outside. While visitors can watch scheduled feedings of the larger fish, including the sharks, plankton brought in with the natural ocean water provides food for the smaller sea animals. Children will especially enjoy picking up starfish, sea urchins and other small sea animals in the seaquarium's touch tank.

IF YOU GO

- The rainy season is in April and August. Otherwise, the 80 degree weather is cooled by soft tradewinds.
- Although there are no kosher restaurants, a wide selection of kosher food including frozen chicken and meat is available at Rudy's Supermarket in Willemstad.
- Rates at the Curacao Caribbean range between $130-$260 U.S. For reservations call 800-344-1212. Fifty per cent discounts can be obtained at this hotel by using the Entertainment card.
- ALM has daily flights out of Miami to Curacao and Adventure Tours books charter packages out of Toronto to the Curacao Caribbean. Travel time, Miami-Curacao, 2½ hours.
- The island's desalinated sea water is safe to drink and tastes so good that it's used to brew Amstel beer. No shots are required.
- U.S. currency is used widely. There are 1.77 florins to the dollar.

GRAND OPENING

The Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Tel Aviv is the first Holiday Inn to be opened in Israel. For its official opening, the hotel was decorated with 300 flags on the balconies to represent all the nations of the world.

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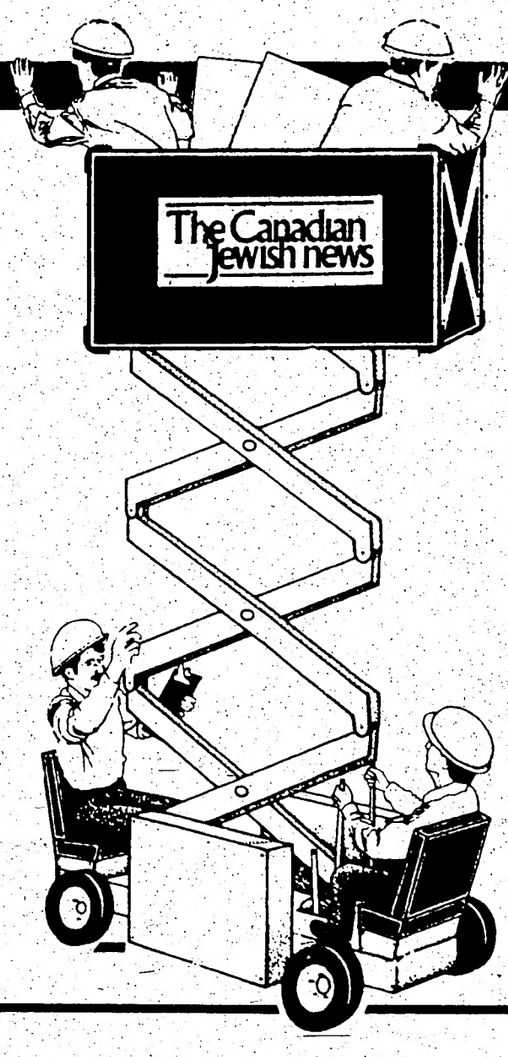

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Successful Bank Merger

MONTREAL — Bank Leumi le Israel and Republic National Bank of New York announced that Republic Bank of New York (Canada) and Bank Leumi le Israel (Canada) have merged. The merged bank will do business under the Republic National Bank of New York (Canada) banner.

Republic National Bank of New York (Canada) with assets of $688 million, will absorb the $164 million asset Leumi (Canada). The amalagmation provides Republic with an entry into the Toronto market with one branch at 3055 Bathurst St. and expands its operational base in Montreal from two branches to three.

* * *

Bonds Included in RRSPs

TORONTO — State of Israel Bonds can now be included in self-directed RRSP and Registered Retirement Income Fund (RRIF) portfolios thanks to federal income tax changes.

For Bonds to be tax-sheltered, their purchase cost cannot exceed 18 per cent of the plan's total book value this year and 20 per cent next year.

Debra Thuet, who chairs the Bonds-RRSP advisory committee for Canada-Israel Securities, believes these new tax sheltering options will encourage "investors who have never thought of Bonds before to purchase them."

Information sessions will be held in the new year for purchasers taking advantage of the new regulations.

* * *

Fourth Business Forum

TEL AVIV — The Fourth Business Forum, under the auspices of the Israeli Forum, will take place Feb. 28 and March 3, 1994 at the Ramada Renaissance Hotel in Jerusalem.

The objectives of the conference are to foster the development of the Israeli economy and economic relationships with world economies including the Middle East and to discuss pragmatically the role of the Israeli economy in the process of improving global stability through international economic co-operation.

The Fourth Business Forum conference will focus upon two major themes: the Mid-East economy in an era of peace; and Israel as a bridge between Western economies and the East.

For more information call Dana Poless at the Israeli Forum office (03)542-3372 or Jill Feinach at (02)634-395.

* * *

November Sales Up

TORONTO — Toronto Real Estate Board (TREB) members reported 3,403 sales of single-family dwellings — the best November sales statistics since the late 1980s, says president Ron Bluestein.

November 1993 figures were up 16 per cent over November 1992 figures (2,942). However, they were down marginally from October's 3,422 sales.

Bluestein says that last year there was a feeling within the industry that the referendum played a role in the decline of November 1992 sales. However, last month's sales were well in line with the October figure which illustrates that the recent federal election had little effect on the local real estate market," says Bluestein.

There was also good news as the average price rose marginally to $202,278 form $201,463 in October and the medium price was up two percent to $175,000 from $172,000.

* * *

Major Profit Boost

TEL AVIV — Bank Hapoalim reported a significant increase in profitability for the first nine months of 1993.

This period also marked a major decline in provisions for doubtful debts and an increase in operating income from subsidiaries and affilitates.

Net profit for the third quarter of 1993 was up 82.2 per cent and amounted to $36 million, compared with $20 million the same period last year. Net profit for the first nine months of 1993, after a one -time provision for taxes, amounted to $72 million compared to $63 million for January to September 1992.

Net return on equity, in annual terms, reached 6.7 per cent during the nine month period. Shareholders' equity rose by 7.9 per cent and amounted to $1,508 million.

Regulatory intervention critiqued

By RUTH SCHWEITZER

With the enthusiastic adoption of good governance practices, corporate leaders can pre-empt "misguided regulatory intervention," said the new chair of the Ontario Securities Commission (OSC).

Lawyer Edward Waitzer, 39, said one example of misguided intervention is the "imposition of strict personal liabilities on directors, which appears to equate and often confuse accountability with liability."

Urging corporate and institutional investment fund managers to take the lead in a "renaissance of moral order" in introducing governance reforms, he said legislatures and courts should exercise restraint as far as regulation goes.

By adopting good governance practices corporate leaders could also shift public attention away from them and to institutional investors, Waitzer told the Canadian Club recently, speaking publicly for the first time since he became chair of the OSC on Nov. 1.

"Remarkably little is known about how these major investor types exercise their shareholding responsibilities."

Although few corporate leaders may welcome outside interference in their affairs, he said governance practices embraced by Canadian corporate statutes, such as the concept of independent directors and the role of audit committees, "work without eroding the traditional atmosphere of boardroom collegiality."

He pointed out that in spite of that there is still resistance to proposed reforms, which include the separation of the role of chairman and chief executive officer.

"As in the past," Waitzer said, "I suggest to you that the resistance may be misguided. To paraphrase the old quote, 'people who live in glass houses should always answer the doorbell.' "

He fears that "in the present political climate there is a serious risk that governments will respond to perceived crises in precipitate ways simply to satisfy pressures 'to do something.' This temptation is fueled by a number of highly visible and dramatic restructurings which are occurring and have occurred in major public and private sector institutions. In each instance, these charitable events are symptomatic of prior poor management."

He remarked that each of the proposed reforms of corporate governance comes either from the outside or from the top down, with no evidence of the input of middle or senior management. "Firstly, no change or reform that is imposed from the top down will be lasting unless it has the support of those who run the corporation. Secondly, one of the lessons we are all learning from the quality efforts that are now becoming part of the North American corporate culture is that the voice of every employee counts and that no level of management has a monopoly on good ideas."

VAT's DOs and DON'Ts

Guidelines to obtaining VAT refunds for Israel visitors

Value Added Tax (VAT) is the Israeli equivalent of GST. VAT is charged on all goods and services in Israel. However, tourists may be exempt from VAT on certain purchases if the following conditions are met:

DO be advised that if you make a foreign currency purchase of at least $50(US) from a "recommended shop" (approved for these purposes by the Ministry of Tourism) you are entitled to a 5 per cent discount and a refund upon leaving Israel.

DO arrive at the airport in plenty of time to redeem VAT refunds.

DON'T expect to receive VAT refunds after leaving Israel, no matter what anyone tells you!

DON'T pack purchases in your luggage.

DO put purchases in carry-on luggage.

DO make sure that purchases remain sealed in their original plastic bags with the original invoices clearly visible.

DO be aware that there are bank charges: $2(US) for refunds up to $30(US); and $5(US) for refunds exceeding $30(US).

DON'T expect refunds on tobacco, cameras, film and electrical appliances; these items are not included in the program.

Source: Israel's Tourist Office.

(Reprinted from *Communiqué*, the bi-annual publication of the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce.)

Environmental mission explores ventures for Canadians

By LEORA FRUCHT

TEL AVIV — Can Israeli expertise in water treatment be harnessed to help clean up the Great Lakes? Can Canadian companies help Israel dispose of its hazardous waste? And can one million scrap tires form the basis of a lucrative joint venture in Israel?

These were some of the questions of interest to 15 Canadian entrepreneurs who tool part in a recent enviromental trade mission to Israel, organized by the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Department of External Affairs and International Trade.

The week-long mission was followed by a Canadian government-organized tour of the West Bank to explore business opportunities for Canadian environmental products and services in the Palestinian sector. The visit marked the second Canadian trade mission to the territories. A general fact-finding tour, also organized by the Canadian Department of External Affairs was held earlier in November, and a larger trade mission to the West Bank and Gaza Strip is planned for next spring.

The trade mission to Israel was the latest in a series of contacts between Canadians and Israelis interested in environmental technologies, products and services. "No other country has targeted this particular Israeli market the way Canada has," said Sara Hradecky, the top trade official at the Canadian Embassy in Israel. "It's an area in which Canada is simply the best."

Israel, which established its first Ministry of the Environment only a few years ago, lags behind most western countries in environmental awareness and legislation. However, this is now changing, with the result that there is a surge in demand for environmental technologies and products. In particular, an Israeli government plan to reduce landfill by substantially raising dumping costs and limiting access to sites has triggered sudden interest in recycling.

"I found that Israeli companies were extremely interested in Canadian technologies for recycling paper and plastic," said Vera Fleischer of Ortech Corporation, a Mississauga-based industrial technology company that offers environmental managements services. "I'm certain that we will be able to do some immediate business with Israeli firms," said Fleischer. "Waste collection plants in Israel are anxious to find alternatives to dumping."

Tire recycling

Another participant in the trade mission hoped to turn a million scrap tires into a lucrative joint venture. Natan Rosen would like to establish a tire-recycling plant in Israel, utilizing the novel technology developed by his firm, Recovery Technologies Inc. "Tires are too cumbersome to dump. And since they contain non-renewable resources they are worth recycling," noted Rosen, whose firm has tire-recycling plants operative in Ayr, Ontario, Switzerland, and Italy, and a new one under construction in Mexico. "No one in Israel can process all of the country's two and a half million scrap tires a year. But we can get rid of one million of them," he maintained.

Rosen will be competing for an Israeli government tender to purchase the country's scrap tires. He has already found several Israeli partners interested in a joint venture. The Canadian government's Export Development Corporation would pay 85 per cent of the cost of the equipment required to set up the factory, he said. The rubber, asphalt and other components of the tires can provide the basis for dozens of cottage industries that produce everything from carpets to children's playgrounds, he added. "This could provide an opportunity for talented immigrant scientists to come up with ideas for new industries."

Rory Murphy of Trojan Technologies Inc. came looking for an Israeli partner interested in applying his company's technology for disinfecting wastewater. The London, Ontario-based firm has sold its systems to municipalities in North America, Europe and Australia. "I see Israel as a stepping stone to the whole Middle East," said Murphy. "Water is going to be THE big issue in the region. We think that a system that permits the re-use of water should generate a lot of interest in Israel and neighboring countries with limited water resources."

The peace accord has stimulated even greater interest in Israel, added Danny Fleishman, executive director of the Canada-Israel Chamber of Commerce. "There is a sense that new opportunities are opening up and that this is the time to move."

Not all participants in the trade mission were out to sell Canadian technology to Israel. One delegate hoped to find an Israeli technology that could be used to help clean up the Great Lakes. "The Israeli government has spent a lot of money on water research," noted Wally Kiczma of Hotz Environmental Services, a Hamilton-based firm. "Some Israeli technologies, particularly ones for removing heavy metals from water, might be useful for the multi-million dollar Great Lakes clean-up which is scheduled to begin in the Hamilton harbor."

Gunnar Heissler of the Toronto-based engineering firm, ECE Group Ltd., was impressed with the highly-educated Israeli work force, especially the immigrants from the former Soviet Union. "There's an incredible talent pool in Israel. In certain areas, such as incineration, the expertise of Russian-trained engineers is much greater than that of Canadian experts," said Heissler, who hoped to form partnerships with Israelis to develop new environmental technologies for use in Canada and other countries.

Other companies that took part in the trade mission included the Ontario firm of Zenon Environmental Inc., Huneault Waste Management and Scintex Ltd., as well as Soprin International Inc. of Longueuil, Quebec, and HBT Agra Ltd. of Calgary.

Energy from desert air

HAIFA — Israeli scientists have discovered how to make energy from desert air and brackish water at a cost of 2.5 to 3.5 cents per kWh.

The new technology, called SNAP (Sneh Aerolectric Power), is being developed through Desert Sluices Ltd with the Israeli Ministry of Energy.

SNAP can also produce desalinated water at approximately half the present cost.

This clean power will reduce dependence on imported oil or coal, and thus will have a significant impact on the environment and the world economy.

A typical full-size Snap plant will be 3,300 ft. (1,006 m.) high and 1,500 ft. (457 m.) in diameter with an average net capacity of 500 mega watts (4.12 billion kWh a year). In conjunction, 100 million cubic meters of water a year (3.5 billion cubic feet or 81,000 acre feet) can be desalinated.

The SNAP technology, originally conceived in California by Dr. Philip Carlson in the 1970s, was developed independently in the 1980s at the Technion, Israel Institute of Technology.

Firms urged to see mistakes and turn insight into action

By RUTH SCHWEITZER

TORONTO — Being ahead of the pack does not guarantee success in the era of global competition, said the former president and chief executive officer of Xerox Canada.

Richard Barton recently told the Canadian Club that before global competition, the company's innovations were always reflected in its bottom line.

Xerox, he said, had some "hard lessons" to learn when they found that developing the first fax machine and the first laser printer did not always translate into business advantages.

The company was ahead of market demand and acceptance, he said, and it had to learn its lesson from failure. "What we had to learn, and learn quickly, that our bottom line was not driven by being first."

Barton stressed that to increase competitiveness, business have to learn from their own mistakes, as well as those of their competitors, and turn insight into action.

Xerox Canada, which Barton restructured over the past two years, reported a 55 per cent profit increase in 1992. "We have learned a number of important lessons at Xerox, lessons that helped us evolve into a 21st-century enterprise," he said. Barton is now president of U.S. customer operations for Xerox.

In order to turn the company around, corporate thinkers at Xerox Canada had to adopt a global perspective instead of a regional one. As well, thinkers and doers, two separate groups in the company's corporate culture, joined forces to implement new strategies.

Xerox, one of the first major corporations to win the Malcolm Baldrige Award for Quality and the Canadian Award for Excellence, redefined the concept of quality for itself.

Responds to market demands

Quality, Barton stressed, means more than "built well" or "built to last" products these days.

Describing quality as a pursuit and process, he said the most challenging aspect of implementing total quality principles is behavioral. It involves "changing the behavior of tens of thousands of people each day toward the customer, toward the product or service, toward the work processes and toward each other."

Xerox Canada's restructuring "flattened" its hierarchial organizational structure, leaving employees with more time to respond to customer requirements like quick delivery.

"Once a customer makes a decision about a product or service they'd like to take possession immediately," said Barton.

He emphasized that improving the management of documents — the reports, memos, invoices and forms office workers spend 40 to 60 per cent of their time producing — is the key to increased white-collar productivity. "Determining what documents you need, the information they should contain, how they should be organized, designed and produced is a core business process with bottom-line implications."

Xerox Canada, he said, improved productivity and cash flow by redesigning their invoices for quicker processing.

Small businesses — firms with fewer than 50 employees — accounted for 85 per cent of all job creation in Canada during the last decade, he said, because small business is focused, is close to its customers and responds quickly to market demands.

"To survive they have always had to be innovative, resourceful and productive. I believe they have taken maximum advantage of the tools and business solutions offered through information technology and telecommunications."

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Business & Finance

Canadian businesses go public on going public

By RUTH SCHWEITZER

When The Second Cup Ltd. went public recently it was smooth sailing for most of the journey but a storm broke out when the company made its public offering, according to Michael Bregman, chair and chief executive officer.

An unfavorable newspaper article about the company brought a phone call from the Ontario Securities Commission, and the underwriters panicked, he said.

The article, he says, was "full of factual errors," so the storm died down quickly and the company raised $14 million.

Although Second Cup stock has never traded above issue price, Bregman said long-term prospects are good and he is confident that the investors will be rewarded.

With 183 franchised and company-owned stores currently under its wing, the company is Canada's largest retailer of specialty coffee and related products. Recently, they acquired The Coffee Plantation, a US-based chain of one-stop retail specialty coffee superstores.

"If we become as substantive as we hope to be in the States, we will require more capital."

Bregman, who thoroughly enjoyed the process of going public, recalled that in the early stages, the investment bankers wanted to make sure they could count on the continuing high quality of Second Cup coffee. To do that, they could have either visited the roasting plant in Kitchener or taken a trip to the company's coffee plantation in Costa Rica. Since it was January, he joked, the bankers wisely chose to go to Costa Rica.

President and chief executive officer of Speedy Muffler King Inc., Fred Karp, used a Charles Dickens quote to describe last summer when the company went public: " 'It was the best of times and the worst of times'," he said, at the panel discussion titled Going Public on Going Public, hosted by United Jewish Appeal's investment division.

"We had the usual battles with the brokers, the price was decided at the last moment and, of course, you're never happy with the price."

Karp had been a private entrepreneur for many years and going public was a bit difficult for him. He says he did it because he wanted the business to grow. Speedy Muffler King currently operates more than 850 shops in Canada, the United States and Europe and Karp hopes there will be 1,000 by 1997.

The Speedy Muffler approach to business, he said, is to go in as the "little guy" and then solidify the business, unlike one of his competitors who has gone in big and lost big. The key to the company's success, he said, is good service and competitive pricing.

Jay Hennick's experience as a lifeguard led him to found a recreation facility and swimming pool management services company in the early 1970s.

Now, Hennick is president and chief executive officer of FirstService Corporation, which includes several companies, among them Superior Pool, ChemLawn, Natural Alternative (ChemLawn's organic lawn care division), Cleanol Services and College Pro Painters.

When FirstService decided to go public, they hoped to raise money for new investment and to repay their debt of about $7 million, but their underwriters told them they wanted too much money. "We elected to cut our offering and raise $10 million," said Hennick, explaining that paying the corporation's debt was not essential.

FirstService recently acquired Action Window Cleaners, founded by a former College Pro Painter manager.

Larry Wasser, the president of Beamscope Canada Inc., a company that holds Nintendo distributing rights in Canada and is the exclusive Canadian distributor of the IBM PS/1 family of products to the retail market, found going public time-consuming. He said it took up to 40 to 60 per cent of his time until the process was completed.

He advised anyone contemplating going public to make sure they have a good management team at the office, adding that he counted on his partner and the management team at Beamscope to fill in for him.

The selection of the professionals you work with to go public, including the law firm and the accounting firm, is critical, Wasser said. Beamscope's lawyer, he added, was "instrumental in making sure it [going public] went smoothly."

Wasser said Beamscope will use the money it raised to make further inroads into the home computer market.

Lloyd Atkinson

Drastic surgery on deficit: expert

TORONTO — The warning from Lloyd Atkinson to the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) Business cabinet was blunt and bleak. Canada is flirting with an economic crisis of confidence that is so severe, it will plunge us deeply into recession, unless drastic surgery is performed on government deficits, he said.

Atkinson, the Bank of Montreal's executive vice-president and chief economist, called for a federal deficit that is slashed in half from the current $46 billion dollar level. The only way to do it, he said, is through severe spending cuts, even though they may be painful. He predicted the alternative would be far worse.

"We are dangerously close to the kinds of deficit numbers that have caused other countries to hit the wall," he said.

What happens when an economy hits the wall? The country's currency is sharply devalued, inflation reappears, interest rates rise and recession takes hold.

These economic realities, claimed Atkinson, would make the new Liberal government "more conservative than the Conservatives." But the big benefit, in the long run, would be interest rates that are even lower than they are today.

Atkinson told UJA campaigners that spending restraint does not signal the demise of Canada's treasured social welfare net.

"Steep spending cuts ought not to be construed as dismantling social programs," he asserted.

He would like to see them revised instead, and he wants Ottawa to stop subsidizing private companies.

Atkinson forecast both 2½ per cent growth for next year and little unemployment relief, which is stubbornly stuck at 11½ per cent.

He also echoed a sentiment felt by many Canadians. We're overtaxed, with damaging effects on the economy, and a burgeoning black market.

"It looks like tax increases would be counter-productive. Any efforts to increase taxes would probably produce less revenue not more," he said.

Atkinson's address was at times so cheerless it prompted UJA Food and Hospitality Division chair Scott Staiman to point to the front window and quip: "It opens in case anyone wants to jump out."

Despite the cloudy economic picture painted by Atkinson, 42 UJA canvassers hit the phones following his speech, raising thousands of additional campaign dollars. UJA is some $6 million dollars shy of its $40 million dollar goal with less than a month to go.

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WESTMOUNT-CENTRE JUST LISTED!
Huge 4 bdrm, bright kit. family rm, f/place, formal dining rm, many extras! **J. Salomon 764-7200

BATHURST-CHABAD — VALUE & LOCATION!
$309K immac. grey/white 4 bdrm, white kit, main family & library, master w/fireplace, shows well! *A. Halpern 764-7200

BACKS ONTO PARK ONLY $298,000
Bathurst-Steeles 2,600', main family, dble garage, skylight, walk to bus & schools, bargain! *L. Kogan 764-7200

BATHURST-STEELES — INCOME BSMT W/SEP. ENTRY
4 bdrms, marble & hdwd fls. *Cila Fleischmann 764-7200

RICHMOND HILL — OUTSTANDING VALUE!
Det. 2,400' 4 bdrm, loaded! $269,000. *M. Millstone 764-7200

BATHURST-BEVERLEY GLEN — CAREFREE LIVING
Over 1,935' end unit townhome, 4 bdrms, 3 baths, walk-in garage, exquisite decor! *M. & C. Green 764-7200

BATHURST-CENTRE — SUPER BUY!
Large 2 storey, huge family room, marble f/place, fab. kit, fully upgraded! *Karen Salomon 764-7200

ATTENTION 1ST TIME BUYERS "A BEAUTY!"
3 bdrm freehold T.H., new brdlm & air, redone kitchen, huge lot & rec room. **M. Povering 764-7200

CONDOMINIUMS

BATHURST-STEELES MUST SELL! "PRIMROSE"
Largest south corner, sunny kit, balcony, great view! **B. Kogan 764-7200

"PALLADIUM" PENTHOUSE @ YONGE-CLARK $219K
Upgraded 2 bdrm corner suite, white kit/baths, marble foyer, 2 pkg ++ *Andrea Halpern 764-7200

YONGE-MAJOR MACK — JUST REDUCED!
Don't miss this! Magnificent 2 bdrm condo w/west exp. tons of upgrades +++ *Sam Cohen 764-7200

CLARK-HILDA "CONSERVATORY" SOUTH CORNER
Only $209K, huge kit, marble, extras, must sell quick! *Leon Kogan 764-7200

BATHURST-STEELES $173,000
Large, upgraded 3 bdrm, parquet fls, mod decor, thousands in extras, overlooks park! **B. Kogan 764-7200

SKYRISE @ YONGE-CLARK JUST $188K!
New lux. bldg., 2 split bdrms & den, west view, white kit, marble ++ *A. Halpern 764-7200

BATHURST-FINCH-STEELES $179,000
About 1,450', 2 bdrms, huge living/dining. *H. Winer 764-7200

BATHURST-CLARK "PROMENADE" $159,900
Over 1,250', 2 bdrms, 2 baths, sun room, ensuite laundry, eat-in kit. *M. & C. Green 764-7200

WHY RENT? ISLINGTON-FINCH $89,000
2 bdrms, like new! 1½ baths, call now! **Helen Gould 764-7200

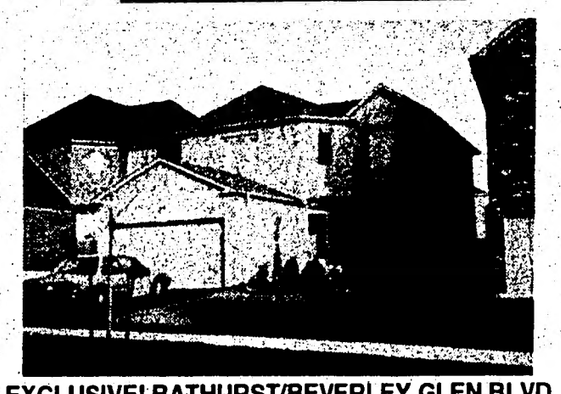
*Sales Representative **Associate Broker

5 HOUSES FOR SALE

LOCATIONS LOCATIONS LOCATIONS™

LOCATIONS INC., REALTOR
REAL ESTATE SERVICES

NORTH OFFICE 771-7100



EXCLUSIVE! BATHURST/BEVERLEY GLEN BLVD.
App. 2600 sq. ft., 4 bdrms., den, fam. rm., white kit. w/3 skylights, cathedral ceiling at front, main flr. laundry w/entrance from garage, parquet floors, dusty rose broadloom, jacuzzi and separate shower in ensuite in master bdrm., ceramic floors and backsplashes! Won't last! Call Polina Brener or Irit Cohen, Sales Representatives, 771-7100.

BATHURST/STEELES
Primrose I, luxury corner unit, approx. 1412 sq. ft., extra-large liv. room, solarium and balcony, 2 bdrms., 2 baths + more! Call Irit Cohen or Polina Brener, Sales Representatives, 771-7100.

BATHURST/STEELES
Beautiful, raised sidesplit in Bathurst Village, 4 bdrms., double garage, fam. room, white kitchen, more, more! Call Polina Brener or Irit Cohen, Sales Representatives, 771-7100.

BATHURST – CENTRE
Cape Cod beauty on quiet cul-de-sac. 4 br., gourmet kit., lib., formal din., huge liv. Call Ken Wilder, Sales Rep, 771-7100.

A STEAL ON PATRICE!
Excellent opportunity for 1st time buyer! 3 bdrm. detached all brick house! Large new white kit., parquet floor in liv & din., fin. bsmt. w/ 3pc. bath, rec. room and bdrm. Cent. air, more, more! Call Irit Cohen or Polina Brener, Sales Reps, 771-7100.

3000 BATHURST ST.
Upgraded luxurious and spacious condo, 2nd floor, not facing Bathurst, 24 hr. sec. Call Jacob Florans, Sales Rep., 771-7100.

BATHURST/FOREST WOOD
3 bdrm. bung. with bsmt. apt. on 45' lot in excl. location. Asking $299,000. Call Jacob Florans, Sales Rep., 771-7100.

YONGE/LAWRENCE
Immaculate, charming 2 storey det. 3 bdrm. on quiet street. Excellent value. Call Jacob Florans, Sales Rep., 771-7100.

BATHURST/LAWRENCE
2 bdrm. bung. on 50' lot. Great starter home! Complete appt. w/ sep. entrance. Call Jacob Florans, Sales Rep., 771-7100.

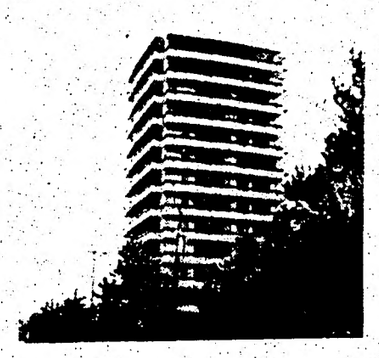
BATHURST/YONGE /FINCH/STEELES
1, 2, + 3 bdrm. condos, your choice. Anxious vendors. Call Joseph Soer, Sales Representative, 771-7100.

NORTH OFFICE 771-7100

BATHURST/STEELES
1600 sq. ft. townhouse – THE CASITAS. 3 br., fully upgraded, fin. bsmt., under. park. Call Ken Wilder, Sales Rep., 771-7100.

CENTRAL OFFICE 787-1712

HILLMOUNT
Dream custom home! Granite hallway, oak plank hardwood floors, approx. 4200 sq. ft. Asking $799,000. A must see! Call David Eichorn, Assoc. Broker, 787-1712.



BATHURST/HILLHURST CONDO
A rare find! 2,500 sq. ft. of luxury, custom renovated & decorated. One suite per floor, wrap-around balcony. Call now! Call David Eichorn, Assoc. Broker, 787-1712.

VIEWMOUNT – REDUCED
Spacious 4 bdrm. on 50'x140' lot! Eat-in-kitchen, new bath, fabulous location near schools, shops, TTC. Call now! Only $359,000. Call David Eichorn, Assoc. Broker, 787-1712.

DELL PARK
Detached bungalow on 50' lot, finished basement, only $239,000. Call David Eichorn, Assoc. Broker, 787-1712.

HILLMOUNT – REDUCED
50'x137' lot, well maintained 3 bdrm., spacious kitchen, asking $349,000. Call David Eichorn, Assoc. Broker, 787-1712.

CENTRAL OFFICE 787-1712 • NORTH OFFICE 771-7100

SEIDMAN
REAL ESTATE LIMITED/REALTOR
633-7373

BATHURST YORK DOWNS
New, quality built, 5 bdrms, 5 bths, liv & din. comb., den, fam. rm., lge kit, built-in appls, fin. bsmnt, dble gar, don't miss!

BATHURST PATRICIA
4 Bdrm backsplit, good-size liv & din, 4 bths, fam. rm., fin. bsmnt, dble gar. A. Rosenthal.

PALM DR. BATHURST
3 Bdrm, 3 bths, split lvl, den, L-shape liv & din, eat-in kit, rec. rm., dble gar, quiet cres, open to offers.

WILMINGTON OVERBROOK
4 Bdrm, cust. built, den, fam. rm., 4 bths, fin. bsmnt., dble gar., steps to all.

A. & D. SEIDMAN 633-7373

15 HOUSES FOR RENT

Three rooms in house, share 2 bathrooms, kitchen, sauna, wood-burning stove, fireplace,parking laundry. Close to Wilson subway. $400+ util. or $1200+ util for family. Call after 5 p.m.763-5930

35 CONDOMINIUM FOR RENT

SKYMARK II RENTAL: Open-concept 2-bdrm. + sol. Approx. 1,750 sq. ft. Santee Leung 441-2003. Santee Realty Inc.

40 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE/ RENT

3000 Bathurst S Lawrence 2 bed 2 bath East view immaculate cond. 444-8461 or 756-0594

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

SKYMARK REVIEW DON MILLS & FINCH

SKYMARK: Selection of 2-bdrm. to 2-bdrm. + den. For our updated inventory call Mr. Santee Leung **THE SKYMARK SPECIALIST,** 441-2003/24 hrs. on call, carphone + pager. **SANTEE REALTY INC.**

50 ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

Springmount Seniors Residence
. . . the home away from home for Seniors
For further info and personal tour call
(416) 247-3378

30 CONDOMINIUM FOR SALE

• **PROMENADE.** 2 bd., 2 bth., $164,900. Gabby Goldring, 731-7111.

UNGERMAN RLTY. RLTR.

GIDEON WAICHENBERG
PRIMROSE LUXURY
•1101 STEELES. 1150 sq. ft., semi-corner, 2 bd., 2 bth., 2 pkg., $169,000
•1131 STEELES. 1,300 sq. ft., corner, 2 bd., 2 bth., balc., locker, $188,900
•1131 STEELES. 1,350 sq. ft., corner pent., 2 bd., 2 bth., 2 pkg., balc., locker, $199,000
RE/MAX VISTA REALTY
520-5700, GIDEON

50 ACCOMODATION AVAILABLE

Village Park Retirement Residence

Private Accommodations · *Home-cooked* meals
Nursing Care · Activities · And much, much, more

(416) 925-2283

282 St. Clair Avenue West, Toronto, Ontario M4V 1S3
(One block east of Spadina Road, across from Winston Churchill Park)

60 SHARED ACCOMMODATION

Yonge/Finch House with Parking, laundry, to share with young professional. Non smoker, no pets, perfect for students.$300+util.730-1551

75 APARTMENT FOR RENT

Jane/Steeles Bachelor Bsmt apt. First & last, no pets, no smoking Clean &quiet 661-6510

One bedroom ground floor with underground prkg at Sheppard /Bathurst Avail Feb.1 635-5031

BATHURST/SHEPPARD
1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apts.
highrise
Only 6 apts on each floor
960-3238 - Bus.
631-9377 or 631-0388 - Super

85 APARTMENT WANTED

Retired Montreal couple wishing to try out Toronto looking for a furn. apt. Bathurst area 1-2 mos. around January. 487-0844

110 COTTAGE FOR RENT

Luxury cottage 3 bedroom Collingwood/ Blue Mountain vicinity weekly $750 weekend $500. Call 905-731-6640

125 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE

Golden Lakes Village, WPB Condo, Villas. 1b/11/2 b, LR, DR, Kit, Sun RMS, Fully Furn. $29,900 OBO. Days905-832-2293 or Evngs 905-476-2383

Hallandale Beaut. renovated 1bed, condo on the beach. Lux. bldg. 24 hr. sec. $75k u.s.416-447-9323 & 305-457-1230

Hallandale Parker Plaza beaut ocean front 1 bed. 18th floor. $79,000 Security 630-9449

130 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR RENT

Arlen House 2 bed 2 bath seasonal or yearly. For info. Anita 305-861-9171 or Elana 404-252-3286

Aventura. Newly furn. 2b/2b. Pool. Overlooks golf course. Top floor (8th). Seasonal, 5 mo. min., 2 year term, $1,200/mo.u.s Call 733-9767 after 7.

Hallandale beachfront 1 bed condo 2w.c. K.K. High security Nonsmoker Feb. 1 766-8222

Hallandale near ocean. 1bedroom 11/2 bath. Balcony From January. $1500/mo. 638-7257 or (305)458-1115

North Miami Beach near Aventura Beautiful corner suit. 2beds 2bths. security. 2 pools, tennis Call 445-3317

North Miami Condo on ocean 261-0504 after 6p.m.

Pompano Beach, 2 bdrm, 2 bath. Avail Jan &Mar 881-1432.

Rent Now $1500 u.s. Immaculate, 2 bed condo, clubhouse Season. Fort Lauderdale area 202-366-9585, 202-364-6669

Singer Island, Palm Beach
Direct Ocean Front
Just Redecorated
2 bedroom, 2 full baths
Fully Equipped
January 1, 1994 to April 30,1994. **Phone (407)845-1300-Chip Lubeck.**

Sunny Isles- I br. wtrfrnt. with balcony, pool. Gorgeous view. Min. to beach Golf, tennis, boating facilities nearby 481-7697

135 FLORIDA PROPERTY FOR SALE/RENT

Longboat Key 3 bdrm furn. townhouse, 2 car garage Avail from January. 962-2766

Naples on the Gulf
Still Paradise in Florida. Buy or rent condos& homes. Contact Sam Friedland Robert Hall& Assoc, Rltr. 1100 5th Ave. S.Naples FLA 33940. FAX 813-566-9988. Phone 813 434 7600

140 FLORIDA ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Hallandale to Deerfield. 1br/11/2bth condo for 4-6wks. Feb1-Mar15. 928-2821 evngs.

155 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Fully furnished 1 bdrm apt. in Ramat Gan. Call (905)881-7851

160 ISRAEL PROPERTY FOR RENT

Jerusalem Wolfson Towers Lux. fully equipped central heat. All amenities Kosher. 967-1158

Jerusalem. Central. Next to Wolfson. Furnished 4 bedroom apt. Knesset view. Dec. 27-Jan.16 Kosher. Shomer Shabbos. 633-8903.

180 OUT-OF-TOWN PROPERTIES

"BARRIE: THE ULTIMATE EXECUTIVE HOME" Highest quality workmanship. 10 ft ceilings, butlers quarters, 7 of the eight bedrooms have ensuite baths, located close to lake in City of Barrie, home fit for a King and Queen $650,000.
Re/Max Chay Realty, Inc.
416-362-7100
ROSS MAIR sales rep.

LAKE SIMCOE — PRIME WATERFRONT
JUST REDUCED BY OVER $50,000
Owner serious on selling this year!! Located south of Barrie this 5 bdrm cottage features skylights, a garage and is on sewers. 51' of safe sandy beach. Asking $245,000.

BIG BAY POINT — LAKE SIMCOE
Exclusive 50' of waterfront with older 3 bedroom cottage. Walk to golf course. Asking $199,000 For information on these properties call Dave Farquharson Toronto line 213-7256 or (705) 728-8800.
Royal LePage Residential Real Estate Services Broker

185 OUT OF COUNTRY PROPERTIES

Palm Springs, Calif. Furnished condo 2 bdrm, 2bath Kosher Kitch. The Fairways next to municipal golf course, tennis, jacuzzi, sauna, U.S. $1500/mo. Avail. immediately. Owner, call collect (818)994-8256

200 OFFICE SPACE

Medical Space Available
Bathurst & Wilson
Long established practices
(Pediatricians etc.)
Very Reasonable Rates
Pharmacy in building. Esther 633-6828 during office hours.

225 INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Furniture business for sale in Ottawa's busy downtown core. Over 20,000 cars per 12 hour day. See this highly visible site. Closed Saturdays, All Jewish Holidays and Statutory Holidays. Open Sundays. Asking $600,000. Building can be leased or purchased. For this or other investment opportunities contact: Ernie Potechin/ David Caldwell, The Regional Group of Companies Inc. (613)230-2100

230 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

A1 opportunity Arena Meat Shops Franchise 686-1742

240 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Retail store looking for an experienced bridal consultant, merchandiser & sales person. Fax resume 416-787-0458

TELEFUNDRAISERS
We are looking for outgoing people with great communication skills to help us in our mission to raise funds for reputable charities. Day & evening hours available. Excellent guaranteed hourly rate,+ bonus, central location. Management opportunities, French an asset but not required, to start right away. Call 966-2300

Wanted:Supply teacher for Hillel Children's Workshop, a secular Jewish sunday school. Call Kalman Brettler 920-1708

250 DOMESTIC HELP AVAILABLE

Au-Pair Domestics
Call TOVAH
923-4222
Europeans, Philipinos available.
Live in or out immediate or future COMPANIONS for elderly couples, or housekeepers, cooks, drivers NANNIES, N.N.E.B., EXP. MOM'S HELP, CHAR LADIES.
Reliable ref. checked, 6 months trial period. 20 years in business will give you best results.

A sparkling clean home. That's our guarantee! Top notch cleaning of your home. Call 568-2630

Exp. health care aide available 6 days a week, house cleaning & looking after elderly. Live-out. Call Bridgette 534-7245

Exp. Polish woman, 35, wants a house cleaning job. 538-7885

High quality house cleaning. Call Dora, 736-1179.

Polish couple, exp. seeks cleaning. 279-3529 message

Woman seeks employment preferably caring for elderly. Live-out.Experienced. 748-8956

260 BUSINESS PERSONALS

Don't give up!! Call Chai Introductions. Since 1975. Unlimited time. Reasonable. 783-7666.

Happy New Year from "Soulmates". We'll give you something to celebrate! Call today Evelyn 633-9925

Jewish Contemporary Singles. Unique and affordable since 1985. Monthly memberships also available. 250-1345

Jewish Singles Registry. You choose your own date based on photo and biography. 398-7068

Something ventured, something gained--a new friend or a mate for life. Find out how--Call JEWISH DATELINE 789-0110

Want a free trip to Israel or anywhere else? Call Beryl (905) 881-7902

Miami Excellent hotel. Special group rates Jan. 18-Feb. 8 or longer. Call Al 633-8127

270 PERSONALS

FEMALE SUPPORT GROUP. Interested participants call 229-6245 after 6 p.m

275 PERSONAL COMPANIONS WANTED

Attention curious females, attractive, wealthy,prof. male, 35, has intriguing offer 633-3863.

Attractive lady early 60s active looking for a partner for a serious relationship. Box 6127 CJN

Mensch Wanted--My sister's 23rd birthday is coming up and I need a special guy to gift wrap. He must be 25-32 years old, tall, slim, attractive, fun-loving with a terrific sense of humour. He should enjoy horseback riding, whitewater rafting, movies, rock concerts and dancing. If he has long hair, plays a musical instrument, rides a motorcycle and loves Don Henley--so much the better. If you fit most of these requirements, please drop a note with a recent photo, you won't regret it! My sister is a tall, slim and sexy, brown-eyed brunette with a warm and generous heart and an exceptional personality. Only kind and sensitive men need apply. Box 6128 CJN

SJF living close to Toronto, non smoker 31, 5'7 would like to meet SJM who likes sports, travel or the beach for a long term relationship. Please write with recent photoBox 6126 CJN

Surrogate mother sought by settled childless otherwise conventional couple. If you might like to help us please write to Box 6124 CJN

280 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shomer Shabbos lady required for Chevra Kadisha. Call Mrs. Fishberg at 663-9060.

305 ARTICLES WANTED

Fountain pens/wristwatches. All types wanted. Will pay from $5-$5000 for your old pen or wristwatch. Ray, 891-2075.

Quality antiques, contents and estates, furniture, rugs, china and silver, paintings, bronze, etc. 833-6710 or 222-5839.

330 OBITUARIES

Samuel Bernstein on Nov 20/93, late of 8 The Donway East, #365
Naima Levy on Nov 20/93, late of 6040 Bathurst Street #506
Maurice Turk on Nov 20/93, late of 318 Rusholme Road
Joseph Berenbaum on Nov 21/93, late of 24 Southgate Avenue
Rose Lastman on Nov 21/93, late of 11 Shallmar Blvd. #202
Dinah Grossman on Nov 22/93, late of 342 Hillhurst Blvd.
Simon Feig on Nov 22/93, late of 23 Laurelcrest Avenue
Victoria Brown on Nov 22/93, late of 410 Inglehart Street
Norman Spigelman on Nov 23/93, late of 131 Torresdale Avenue #1904
Sara Liberman on Nov 24/93, late of 5935 Bathurst Street
Leon Clapham on Nov 24/93, late of 55 Ameer Avenue #508
Annie Rabinowitz on Nov 25/93, late of 42 Marathon Crescent
Tillie Mandel on Nov 26/93, late of 35 Canyon Avenue #703
Jeffrey Silverstein on Nov 13/93, late of 133 Davisville Ave. #1515
Maxwell Rosenheck on Nov 12/93, late of 512 Canonberry Court #417
Helen Clarfield on Nov 13/93, late of 81 McAllister Road
Solomon Lederman on Nov 12/93, late of 2045 Lakeshore Blvd West #4601
Morris Shefsky on Nov 16/93, late of 360 Ridelle Avenue #2503
Eric Roth on Nov 16/93, late of 3 Springmaple Chase
Dora Katz on Nov 16/93, late of 55 Regal Road
Alice Herman on Nov 17/93, late of 34 High Point Road
Jennie Franki on Nov 15/93, late of 3560 Bathurst Street
Bessie Sachs on Nov 18/93, late of 37 Clifton Avenue
Flora Kollins on Nov 18/93, late of 550 Cummer Avenue

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

330 OBITUARIES

Memorial Donations by Phone
Make a tax-deductible donation to the charity of your choice, and have it billed automatically to your telephone number. (416/905 callers only.)

To make a $25 donation, call —
1-416-976-2225
To make a $36 donation, call —
1-416-976-2236
To make a $50 donation, call —
1-416-976-2250

18010 Alzheimer Ontario
18012 Arthritis Society
18015 Asthma Society
18018 B'nai Brith Canada
18020 Canadian Fdn. for AIDS Research
18022 Canadian Breast Cancer Fdn.
18023 CC Children with Cancer
18026 Cdn. Assoc. for Community Living
18027 Canadian Cystic Fibrosis Fdn.
18030 Canadian Diabetes Association
18033 Canadian Liver Foundation
18034 Canadian Mental Health Assoc.
18039 Cerebral Palsy Ontario
18040 Crohn's & Colitis Fdn. of Canada
18050 Juvenile Diabetes Fdn. of Canada
18055 Multiple Sclerosis Soc. of Canada
18057 Muscular Dystrophy Assoc. of Cda.
18060 Ontario Cancer Institute
18064 Parkinson Fdn. of Canada
18067 Schizophrenia Society of Canada
18075 The Salvation Army
18078 United Church, Mission & Service
18079 Victorian Order of Nurses
18080 Baycrest Centre Foundation
18081 Distress Centre/Survivor Support
18082 Etobicoke General Hospital
18083 Jewish Family and Child Service
18084 Mount Sinai Hospital
18085 Princess Margaret Hospital
18087 Ronald McDonald House
18090 Sunnybrook Health Science Centre
18095 Toronto Hospital Foundation
18099 Women's College Hospital
18181 B'nai Brith Women of Canada
18185 Israel Cancer Research Fund
18190 Jewish Camp Council
18192 Jewish Community Centre

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For further information, call
CARE-TEL INTERNATIONAL
at 1-800-461-2419.
Funds received and disbursed by
CIBC TRUST

Samuel Camelgar on November 10, 1993
Cohen, Julius on November 22, 1993, late of 285 Maxwell St.
Dziedzic, Chaja Anna on November 22, 1993, late of 12 Renoak Drive
Harrouch, Maurice on November 21, 1993, late of 4190 Bathurst St., #609
Himel, Benjamin on November 22, 1993
Horowitz, Dorothy on November 26, 1993, late of 132 Chiltern Hill Rd.
Klein, Belle on November 26, 1993, late of 21 Charleswood Dr.
Kraft, Abraham on November 26, 1993, late of Baycrest Hospital
Nopolsky, Israel on November 27, 1993
Pothtar, Braina on November 25, 1993
Scheinman, Jack on November 24, 1993
Solomon, Morris on November 27, 1993
Steinberg, Sylvia on November 26, 1993, late of 4300 Bathurst Street
Tinianov, Harry Benjamin on November 24, 1993, late of Extendicare Nursing Home
Zeifman, Nous on November 24, 1993
Abrams, Janet on November 27, 1993
Bialick, Mary on November 30, 1993, late of 333 Clark Ave. W. #518
Bosker, Leon on November, 30, 1993, late of 9 Dornfell St.
Fisher, Barry on November 27, 1993
Koppl, Irene on November 26, 1993
Levine, Gertrude Rose on December 1, 1993, late of 78 Wembley Rd.
Linetsky, Mary on December 1, 1993, late of 4415 Bathurst St. #405
Rosenthal, Harry on November 30, 1993
Ross, Ron on November 28, 1993
Roth, Benjamin on November 30, 1993
Saunders, Ethel on November 28, 1993, late of 43 Alexis Blvd.
Weinstein, Zeeva on November 30, 1993, late of 5 Fisherville Ave., #1708
Wigdor, Rose on November 28, 1993

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

338 SHIVA CATERING

milk 'n honey
THE DAIRY RESTAURANT
SHORT NOTICE AND SAME DAY SERVICE
*Tasteful Presentation
*Hot/Cold Platters
and Full Course Meals
DELIVERY AVAILABLE
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• SHIVA PLATTERS
• HOT & COLD MENUS
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(Bathurst Manor Plaza)
633-6661

UNITED BAKERS DAIRY RESTAURANT
CATERED TRAYS
for
ALL OCCASIONS
- your basic family restaurant -
Lawrence Plaza
789-0519

330 OBTUARIES

Adolf Cige on Nov 26/93, late of 62 Laurelcrest Avenue
Steven Rodness on Nov 26/93, late of 170 Tamarack Dr.
Yetta Barnes on Nov 25/93, late of 192A Lowther Avenue
Matthew Sturman on Nov 25/93, late of 113 Poplar Crescent
Anne Salsky on Nov 26/93, late of 429 Walmer Road
Ethel Sieff on Nov 27/93, late of 14 William Morgan Drive
Florence Latner on Nov 29/93, late of 69 Old Forest Hill Road
Doris Pascal on Nov 26/93, late of 49 Avenue Road
Gertrude Handelman on Nov 27/93, late of 2 Buchan Court
Jason Berger on Nov 28/93, late of 40 Gordon Road
Nathan Goodman on Nov 28/93, late of 1329 Steeles Avenue West T.H.2
Sybil Goldstein on Nov 28/93, late of 5 Majestic Court
Ruth Knapp on Nov 29/93, late of 330 Spadina Road #1405
Abraham Apple on Dec 1/93, late of 9 Hasting Square.

BENJAMIN'S PARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL

TO PLACE AN UNVEILING NOTICE PLEASE CALL AT LEAST 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE UNVEILING DATE.

CLASSIFIED DIRECTORY

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We cannot bill for classified ads. They may be charged over the telephone to your Visa or MasterCard credit card, or you may mail in your ad with a cheque to: The Canadian Jewish News, 10 Gateway Blvd., Suite 420, Don Mills, Ontario M3C 3A1.

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(for copy and prepayment)

Call 422-2528
for information on rates

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415 HOME IMPROVEMENTS
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485 SNOW REMOVAL
500 TUTORING
505 TYPING/WORD PROCESSING
510 UPHOLSTERY/CARPETS
515 WATERPROOFING
520 WINDOW COVERINGS
525 WINDOW RELACEMENT
530 WINDOW CLEANING

Heather Eugene (front centre) of Heather's Hoofers with her tap dancing class.

'Tap fever' targets Toronto

By CYNTHIA GASNER

TORONTO — Tap dancing died out in the 1950s and 60s. Thanks to people like Heather Eugene, tap dancing is making a major come back in the 90s, but with a new emphasis — fitness.

Speaking of the resurgence of tap dancing, Eugene, a tap dance teacher says, "You can see tap dancing in almost every Broadway show. Before long, Toronto will be hit with tap fever. Tap is a great fitness alternative to aerobics."

Eugene, 31, was born and raised in Toronto. She says that when she took her first dance lesson at the age of six, she knew she wanted to make dancing her career. Today, she offers classes and programs under the name of Heather's Hoofers (922-6099), and her students range in age from 13 to 65.

"Tap dancing can be more uplifting than line dancing and just as much fun," she says. "Have you ever seen a sad tap dancer?" Most of her students are dancing for the exercise "and some are trying to recapture the Fred and Ginger that exists in all of us. Just the pure sound of the rhythm is enough to keep you shuffling off to Buffalo."

Eugene studied dance at a number of suburban dancing schools. "By taking classes from many different teachers," she says, "I feel that I have developed my own style."

She has performed on television and in cabaret shows. Most directors, she explains, look for dancers 5 feet 7 inches or taller. "I'm only 5 feet 3 inches so I decided that a more stable career was to teach dancing."

She adds, "I love teaching people at all levels of ability. It's a great feeling to watch people who know very little about dancing and see them learn my choreography and steps."

After teaching for three years for the Board of Education, she started her own classes two years ago. "Many of the students presently in my classes were in my classes when I was teaching at the board. And many are career people."

Eugene describes herself as "the travelling tap teacher who flaps her wings around Metro." She has set up programs at community centres and schools, and she even takes Heather's Hoofers to retirement homes, charity functions, organizations, and television promos.

Arts program to nurture inner talent

Painting and sculpting taught in one class

TORONTO — Members of an artistic Jewish family from Russia have organized a European-oriented program that proves that every child is talented.

"ArtsLab will nurture a spark in each child," says Sonya Danzig, one of the founders of the unique art school. "And who knows, maybe, quite possibly, in parents as well."

The Danzig family emigrated from Moscow to Toronto in 1989. In 1991, Rosa Danzig, her brother Sasha Danzig and his wife Sonya, launched Atelier Danzig Inc., a commercial art studio in the Royal York Hotel which produces murals for public places such as the Royal York and King Edward hotels and residences.

As parents and artists, the Danzigs recognized a need in the community and established ArtsLab. They opened the school at 1 Lord Seaton Rd. near the intersection of the 401 and Yonge Street in North York.

"Rather than treat art classes as play time, ArtsLab treats art as vital to a child's development," says Sonya.

The visual arts immersion program offers a hands-on experience for children 8 and up. Rose explains that around 8, children are intellectually and emotionally ready for more. "When you are an adult, you often look back at drawings you made as a kid and wonder 'How did I do that? Was I really that creative? Where did the spark go?' At ArtsLab, our intention is to keep that spark alive."

ArtsLab has a structured environment where painting, drawing, sculpting, modeling and art history are all taught in one class. "The program aims at having children learn for themselves," says Sonya. "They learn how to talk about art and how to appreciate someone else's work."

"Children will not only see art but learn how to evaluate and express their feeling about it as well," Rosa says. Whatever a child's career objectives, the Danzigs maintain art can open their eyes to a different way of seeing things.

Sasha Danzig of ArtsLab is seen working with a student.

Art requires basic skills used in every walk of life — problem solving, communicating original ideas, and most importantly self-confidence, she notes.

Sonya, who has a master's degree in journalism and wrote on art for several Russian magazines, worked at Temple Sinai for two years after she arrived in Toronto. "It was basically a cultural shock when I first arrived. Working as a receptionist helped me understand and adjust to the culture of North America."

Sasha, who has a master's degree in engineering, made the prestigious list of the Professional Union of Artists in Russia after extensive competition and training. At 24, he decided to give up engineering to produce necklaces and earrings, as well as small sculptures.

Rosa, a professional artist also recognized by the Union, began studying art full time at 11. She has a master's degree in fine arts. She paints mainly in oils and she has exhibited her paintings extensively.

Sonya is the entrepreneur in the family. She says ArtsLab is taking a different approach and is not only for children with talent. "We can show them [all] how they can benefit from art in their everyday life."

For more information on ArtsLab, call (416) 882-7855.

— C.G.

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THE KOSHER SPECIALISTS

LUBAVITCH international

Autumn 5754 / 1993 Number 9 NEWS FROM THE CHABAD-LUBAVITCH GLOBAL NETWORK ב"ה

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Short Stories by Gershon Kranzler

It was President Clinton's 100th day in office when he donned a yarmulke embroidered with his name and the Presidential Seal, and put a crisp new dollar bill into a special silver charity box.

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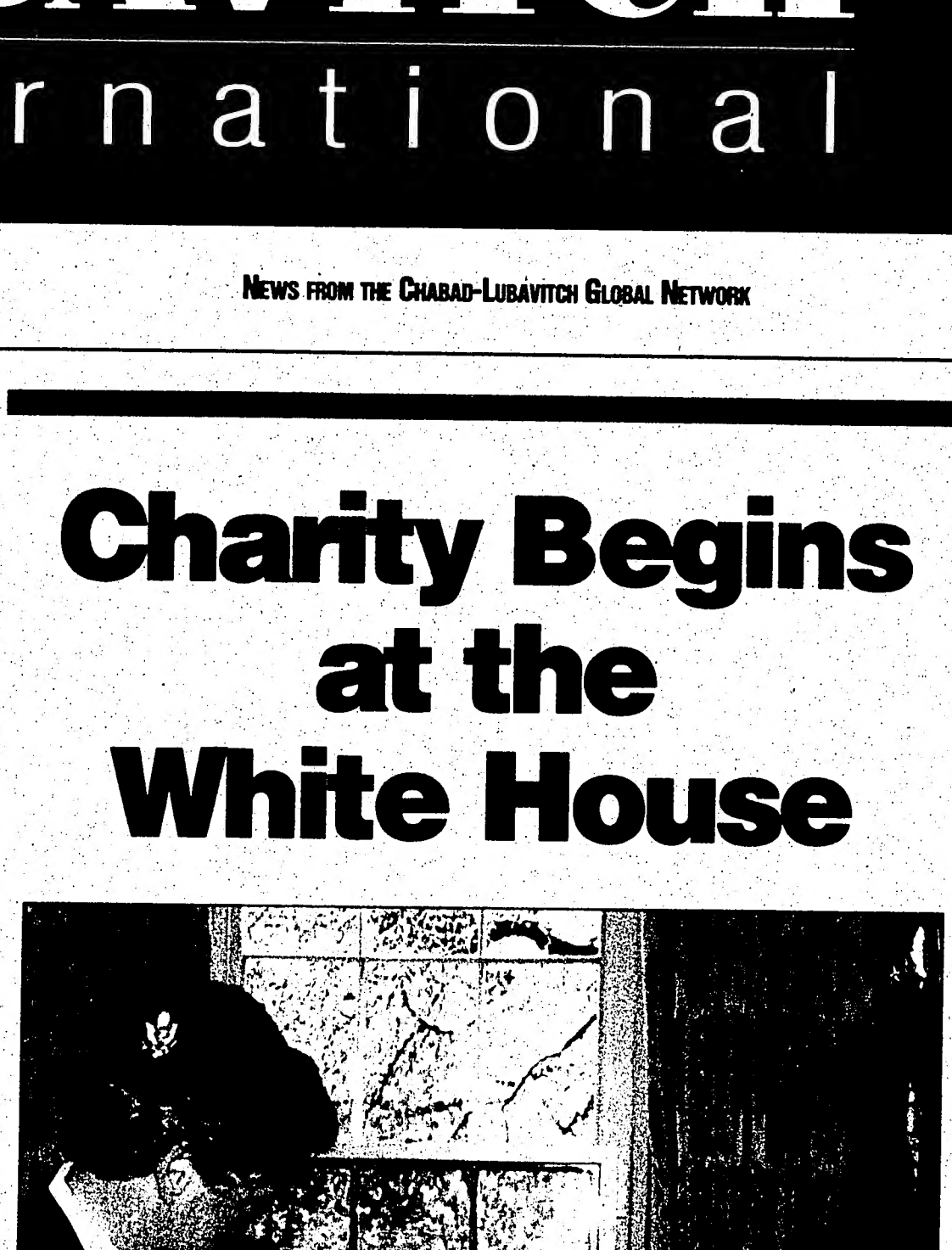
Charity Begins at the White House



White House Photo

The buck starts here: President Clinton places a dollar sent to him by the Rebbe into a silver charity box.

A Living Memorial

THE NATIONAL HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM IN Washington has been a topic of discussion ever since its opening last spring on the 50th anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto uprising. There is so much to say, it seems, but then, after all has been said and done, the question remains: What now?

With the number of Holocaust survivors dwindling to a precious few, we—the second and third post Holocaust generation have a profound need to know that the memory of the tragedy wrought upon our people will not recede into the background of history. We are not content to know that the Holocaust will be remembered in the broad strokes of historical phenomena. We want the names, the faces and the lives of the annihilated to be remembered, and too, the suffering and humiliation which they were forced to endure. We want this for many reasons, but ultimately, we want this so that the world will always remember the depths to which humanity can sink, and the abyss of evil into which it can descend.

Speaking about the Holocaust the Rebbe has said: "... each one of us must be made to count, and to count doubly."

Indeed, the Holocaust Memorial Museum succeeds to convey this message to each of its visitors. But if visitors walk away taking even small comfort in their visit as a tribute, the perished millions will once again be shortchanged, this time by the very generation that seeks to memorialize them.

To be sure, memorialization has its place in honoring the memory and the souls of those who have died. Observing *yahrzeit* and the recitation of *kaddish* and *yizkor*—are all traditional Jewish forms of memorialization. But can we—the children and grandchildren of the decimated Jews—thus absolve ourselves of the onus to perpetuate the millions of truncated lives?

Speaking about the Holocaust the Lubavitcher Rebbe has said: "The Jewish people has been so heavily decimated that each one of us must be made to count, and to count doubly." This is the impulse that has inspired Lubavitch to work with a passion to rebuild Jewish centers of Torah and to stimulate the growth of Jewish life both in number and in quality, not only in Europe, but throughout the world as well.

As you look through this issue of Lubavitch International and you learn about the diversity and scope of Lubavitch activities, we think you will agree that more than anything else, it is the happy faces of Jewish boys and girls in Jewish schools and yeshivas around the world, that serve as a living memorial to the souls of the annihilated.

As the Rebbe has said, it is only with a redoubling of our efforts to encourage growing Jewish families and communities by which we can assert—on behalf of the Jews of the Holocaust—the dignity, the pride and the abiding, eternal faith of the Jewish people.

LUBAVITCH international

News from the Chabad-Lubavitch Global Network
Volume 3, Number 2 (9) Autumn 5754 / 1993

Lubavitch International (ISSN 1068-8331) is published by **Lubavitch News Service**
770 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, New York 11213 (718) 774-4000 Fax: (718) 774-2718

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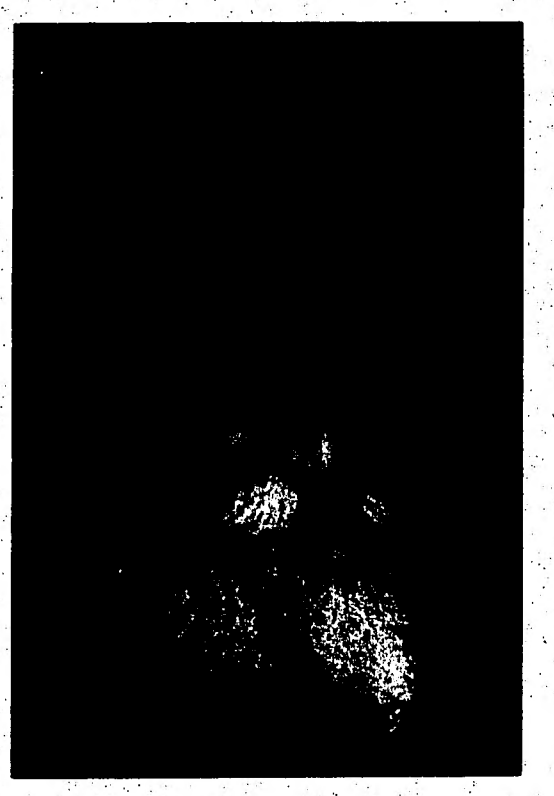
A Time to Share



S. Roumani/LNS

Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson שליט"א
The Lubavitcher Rebbe

AS WE MOVE ALONG INTO THE NEW YEAR, WE NEED to bear in mind that this is a particularly unique year as it is the year of *Shmittah*, the Sabbatical year. This Rosh Hashana marked the completion of a cycle of six years and the beginning of the observance of the *Shmittah*, the seventh year.

As with Shabbat, the seventh day of the week that is dedicated to holiness, during which we abstain from work and all kinds of physical labors, the *Shmittah* year is designated as a holy year. "Let the land lie fallow..." the Torah commands us, and as such, prohibits all labors pertaining to agriculture, in the Land of Israel.

There is, however, an underlying and essential difference between Shabbat and *Shmittah*. Whereas in the observance of Shabbat we invoke G-d as the Creator of the world, *Shmittah* invokes Divine proprietorship of the universe.

Basically, the laws of *Shmittah* render the fields, orchards and farms as public property, withdrawing for all practical purposes personal ownership for the duration of the year. These laws make it permissible for anyone, including house servants and field laborers, to eat from the fruits and grains of the fields.

Although these laws apply only to the Land of Israel, there is a message that all of us can glean from its significance, regardless of where we live.

The *Shmittah* year, designated by G-d as a reminder to each of us that while He has endowed us with the gifts of this earth, to cultivate the land and enjoy its fruits, ultimately, it is G-d to Whom everything belongs. The recognition that we do not hold true proprietorship to anything ought to inspire within us a gratefulness to G-d for all the bounty He has blessed us with. Furthermore, it bears strongly on how we perceive our money, and the spirit that attends our charity giving. It is not uncommon for one to give charity— even generously, with the perception that he or she is parting with their own money. This is a mistaken perception.

Tzedaka, commonly translated as "charity," actually means "justice." With the recognition that everything ultimately belongs to G-d, the sharing of one's money, time and energy is not a charitable act, but rather a just act. In giving each of us our share of material blessings, G-d has given us the opportunity to exercise our choice to share it generously.

Every year on Rosh Hashana, we proclaim G-d King of the universe. The *Shmittah* year, which appropriately began on Rosh Hashana, affirms our faith that not only has G-d created the world but He is its Master as well.

As has been said many times before, the manner in which we begin the new year, the commitments we make and the resolutions we adopt will reflect themselves in the quality of the days that follow throughout the year. Thus, it is especially important that we take the message of *Shmittah* to heart, beginning with the early days of the New Year, when we customarily increase in our *tzedaka* giving, and carry it through the entire year.

In the merit of a heightened awareness of our indebtedness to G-d Almighty during this *Shmittah* year, G-d will surely bless each and every one of us with a year of health, happiness and prosperity, in both physical and spiritual respects. ◻

Adapted from a letter by the Rebbe, Tishrei 6, 5733

Lubavitch International extends thanks and appreciation to its friends around the world, whose prayers and good wishes continue to pour forth. They are a source of strength to the Rebbe in his continued progress to recovery.

Bringing the concept
of Moshiach to the people

Tanks Across America

Good News AMERICA!
Moshiach is about to change the world.
For Good.
Your Mitzvah will make a world of difference.
For more information call: 1800 LUBAVITCH

Photos M. Meijers

Tanks Against Assimilation: The mobile mitzvah centers reach across cultural barriers to teach, educate and inspire.

SOMETIMES IT SEEMS THE MOST effective way to make a point is to deliver it personally. That's what a group of Lubavitch students decided to do last May, inspiring a grass-roots consciousness of a kinder, gentler world.

In a caravan consisting of five mobile homes, 17 Lubavitch students set out on a journey that would take them across the country, through 31 states, where they would meet and greet countless individuals, and talk to them of the little things that count in big ways towards the making of a world that is ready for Moshiach.

"The purpose of our project was to educate people, especially Jews, about the concept of Moshiach and the redemption," explained Shmulik Strassberg, the student who directed this project. "Many people knew nothing at all about Moshiach—a central belief of Judaism. Others had misconceived ideas and myths about it that needed clarification."

What seemed to appeal to most of the peo-

The Gateway Arch in S. Louis, Missouri, beckons the mitzvah mobiles to the great west.

ple, said Zalman Deitsch, one of the students, was the sensibility of the Moshiach Awareness Campaign, which basically asks people to contribute to the fulfillment of this promise by doing something good. "People were impressed that what we wanted of them was to pledge to do something good—any good deed, whether it be helping a sick friend, giving extra charity, doing a mitzvah—to realize the fulfillment of the Jewish promise of redemption."

Setting out from New York, the Caravan traveled south to Key West, and then cross country to S. Francisco. On the return, it traveled through midwestern states and up to Canada, returning to New York, after five weeks, appropriately, on the 11th of Nisan, the Rebbe's 91st birthday.

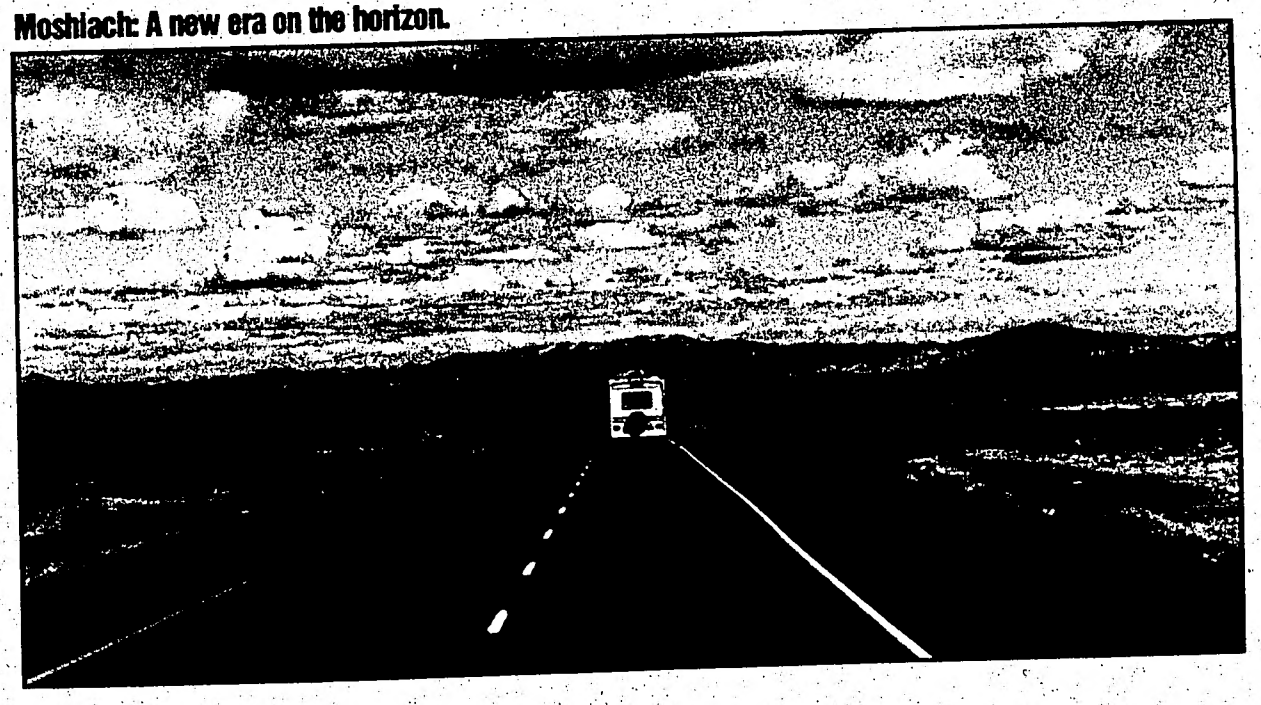
Stocked with kosher food, the mobile units were home to the students for the better part of the five weeks. Upon arriving in a designated city, the caravan's first stop was the local Chabad-Lubavitch center. After a warm reception, a home-cooked meal and some rest, the local Lubavitch representative mapped out the five or six locations that would put the mobile centers in touch with large numbers of Jews. The caravan then split up, each unit to one of the various places.

On campuses from Rutgers to Berkeley, at schools and senior citizens centers, the Lubavitch students and their mobiles piqued the interest of thousands. "People, Jews and non-Jews, had lots of questions. Many wanted to discuss the Moshiach campaign with us." A 10-minute video explaining the Moshiach Campaign was produced specifically for this project. Thousands of Shabbat candles and candlesticks were distributed, and a similar number of Jewish men welcomed the opportunity to don *tefillin*.

Exhausted but driven, the students repeated the program in each of the states on their itinerary, exposing them to a cross section of the American Jewish population. "Although each community was unique, and the levels of Jewish affiliation and Jewish identity covered the entire spectrum, it was interesting to note how people from all backgrounds and affiliations were asking the same questions, and had been confused by similar misconceptions," said Avremi Zuntz, associate coordinator.

14,000 miles and 35 days later, the students may never know the extent of their salutary impact on the lives of those whose paths they crossed on this journey. But they do know that thousands of the people they met want to be part of the positive energy that makes this world a G-dly place. ■

Moshiach: A new era on the horizon.



Proud to be a Jew: Alexander Vays with his family.

From Abraham To Alexander

SIX YEAR OLD ALEXANDER VAYS from Russia was the 10,000th Jew to be circumcised by Friends of Refugees of Eastern Europe (F.R.E.E.), the Brooklyn-based social and religious organization serving Russian immigrants.

Normally performed on the eighth day of life but prohibited in the formerly communist Eastern bloc countries, the *brit milah* is, for many Russian Jews, a long delayed expression of their covenant and embrace of their Jewish identity. Unlike a *brit* performed on the eighth day, these circumcisions take place in a hospital under some form of anesthetic.

Arranging these circumcisions is Rabbi Hershel Okunov, Director of F.R.E.E. and himself a Russian emigre. "It takes a lot of courage when you're no longer eight days old," he says.

Yet these Jews, most of whom know very little about Judaism, typically express a sense of something amiss in their Jewishness before undergoing a *brit*. Following the precedent set by Abraham the Patriarch, they seek to enter G-d's covenant regardless of their age.

The circumcisions of three adults followed Vays's *brit* in the same hospital. When friends and family joined hands to sing and dance several hours later in the hospital's auditorium, one of the men, 52 years old and recovering from his own *brit*, got up to join the dancing.

> *"This is my day. I want to dance. Today I am a complete Jew!"*

Rabbi Okunov could not persuade the man to sit. "This is my day," he said. "I want to dance. Today I am a complete Jew!"

Rabbi Okunov (far left) and his team greet Alexander outside the operating room.

Rebbe's Blessings Conveyed to President

The President presents Rabbi Abraham Shemtov with the Joint Resolution. Flanking them are Lubavitch representatives - representing the more than 1500 Lubavitch Centers worldwide. From left: Rabbis Yehuda Weg, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Yisroel Deren, Stamford, Connecticut; Yosef Groner, Charlotte, North Carolina; Zalman Posner, Nashville, Tennessee; Moshe Herson, Morristown, New Jersey; Pinchas Ciment, Little Rock, Arkansas.

IT WAS PRESIDENT BILL CLINTON'S 100th day in office when he donned a yarmulka embroidered with his name and the Presidential Seal, and put a crisp new dollar bill sent to him by the Lubavitcher Rebbe into a sterling silver charity box, a *pushka*. "These two will be with me forever," said the President.

With him in the Oval Office were seven Lubavitch representatives who presented the President with the *pushka*, the yarmulka and the special dollar bill. The visit, in honor of the Rebbe's 91st birthday, followed a celebration held in Washington, and the issuing of a Joint Resolution by both Houses designating the Rebbe's birthday as "Education and Sharing Day U.S.A." The joint resolution calls for ". . . a renewal of our Nation's commitment to greater acts of charity, to an enriched emphasis on education, and to the furtherance of ethical teachings and values in the affairs of government and in the lives of our citizens."

In a tradition going back to the Ford administration, Rabbi Abraham Shemtov, National Director of American Friends of Lubavitch, with other Lubavitch representatives of Chabad-Lubavitch centers across the country, visit the President every year on the Rebbe's birthday, bringing his greetings and blessings to the President.

In a letter sent by the President following the visit, he expresses his appreciation and gratitude for the meeting. Referring to the *pushka*, the President writes: "It is a wonderful remembrance of our need to share with others."

Commenting on the visit to the Oval Office and the President's response to the blessings and dollar sent by the Rebbe, Rabbi Shemtov noted, "The President was very gracious, attentive and seemed spiritually uplifted."

The Cheder Boys of Lyons

LYONS, THE SECOND LARGEST CITY in France, and the world's capital of gastronomy, is where four-star chef Paul Bocuse and others of his stature have earned their reputation among epicurean travelers. In many Jewish ears, the name Lyons rings a bell for the infamous Klaus Barbie, the Butcher of Lyons, and his trial that was held there in 1987.

Last October, Nobel prize laureate Elie Wiesel addressed the guests at the opening of the Museé de la Resistance et de la Deportation—the Museum of Resistance and Deportation. Established in the converted former Gestapo Headquarters building, the museum, which honors Jean Moulin and other heroes of the French Resistance, features exhibits of Jewish suffering at the hands of the Nazis.

Following his speech, Mr. Wiesel visited Beth Menachem, the Chabad-Lubavitch elementary school in Lyons where a playground in its new building was named in his honor. Six young school boys, dressed in the traditional Chassidic garb with caps and *tzitzit*, strongly reminiscent of Wiesel's childhood *cheder* so vividly described in his works, greeted the author and Holocaust survivor.

One of the boys read a letter composed by the students: "You've just been reminded of the suffering and despair of the Jewish people," the little boy said. "But here you see us, Jewish '*cheder* boys'—a sign of hope and promise. That hope has always been expressed in the words and song of *Ani Maamin*—I believe."

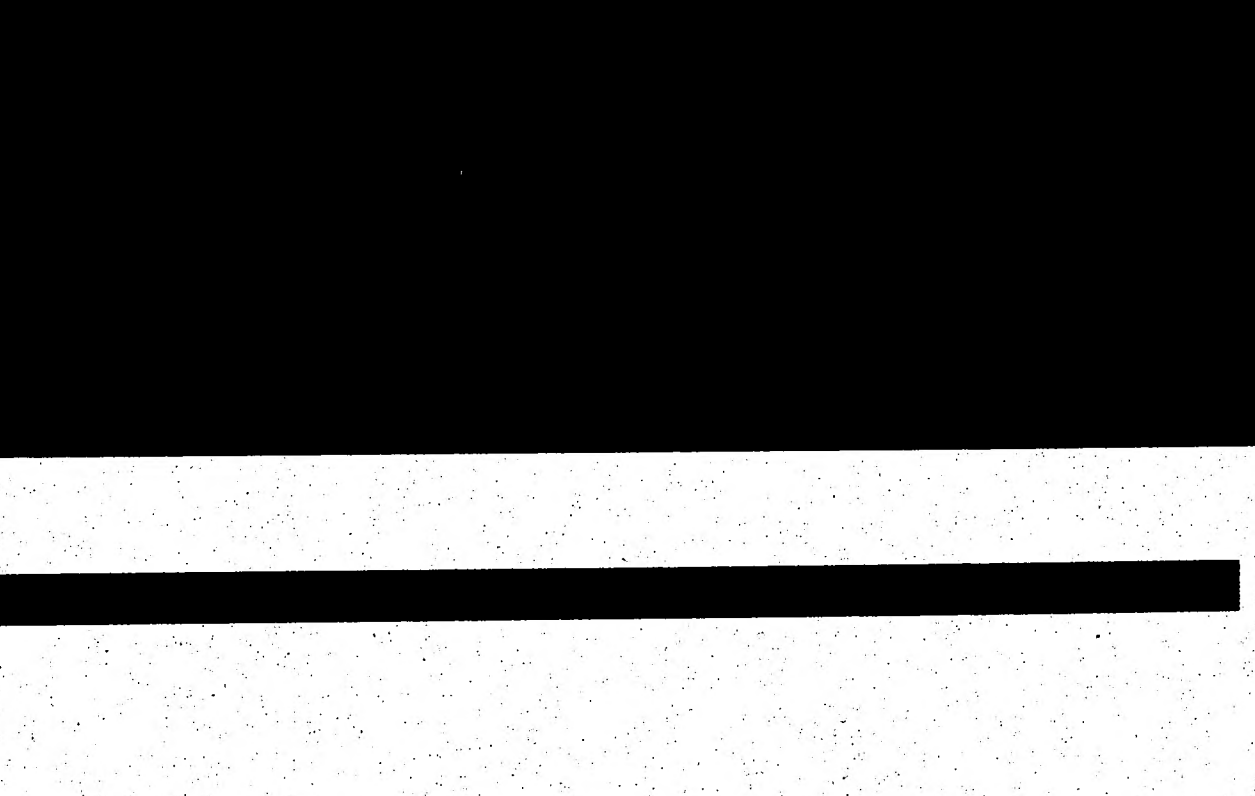
The grand Beth Menachem School in Lyons, where 11-year old Yakov Vidal, read a moving tribute to the memory of the Six Million.

Carrying candles—the six boys, each representing one of the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust, began to sing the *Ani Maamin*. They blew the shofar and concluded with the prayer that all the Jews be redeemed speedily, with Moshiach.

Moved to tears by the emotional presentation, Mr. Wiesel spoke of his profound admiration and love for the Lubavitcher Rebbe, the inspiration behind all the activities in Lyons. With stirring nostalgia, he then began to sing the *Ani Maamin* to the tune of an old Chassidic melody.

Rabbi Shmuel Gurevitch, the energetic administrator of Beth Menachem, talks of the school he and his wife Sarah established in 1982. Accredited by the Board of Education, the school follows the Montessori method in the secular department. "Our faculty understands that Beth Menachem must subscribe to the highest standards of academic, religious and moral values—not only if we are to maintain state accreditation, but especially because the school bears the name of the Lubavitcher Rebbe." Mrs. Gurevitch, principal of Beth Menachem, works closely with the teachers and parents of the school's 250 students, seeing to it that the values and traditions they are taught at school are encouraged outside the school—at home and in the community. "We've worked hard to create an open atmosphere in the school," explains Mrs. Gurevitch. "All of our teach-

Rabbi Gurevitch visits a class in session: Building the community from kindergarten up.



ers appreciate what the school stands for, and the non-Jewish members of our faculty have tremendous respect for what we are trying to accomplish."

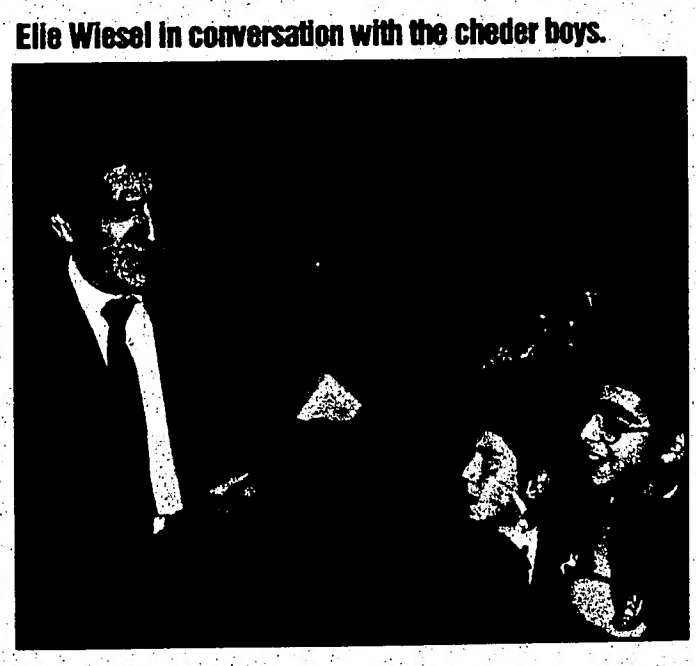
A pet project of the Gurevitchs', the school is but one of the many they have brought to the Jewish community of Lyons. The Chabad House, on Rue Passage Cazenove in the heart of Lyons's 6th district, is always alive with activity. Conducting Torah classes every evening, Rabbi Gurevitch, himself a native of France and the son of the Lubavitch representative in Yerres, teaches Talmud and Chassidic philosophy to 25-30 physicians, businessmen and students who wind the day down with Torah study. On Tuesday evenings, Mrs. Gurevitch leads a popular Torah study class for some 50 women.

"I feel very strongly about educating the women of this community, allowing them to discover, through a variety of ways, the richness of their tradition," says Mrs. Gurevitch. Tapping into local talent, she produces entertaining programs that provoke thought and interest in the Jewish feminine experience.

In 1992, with the help and involvement of professional women in fashion and theatre, Mrs. Gurevitch staged a fashion show. The theme: "The Jewish woman and her *mitzvot* from biblical to modern times." With costumes reflecting authentic period dress, Jewish models and actresses—each representing one of the three *mitzvot* particular to the woman and its fulfillment throughout history, strolled down the runway. The event, attended by hundreds of women including Madame Michel Noir, the wife of Lyons's mayor, received a standing ovation. This year's major production was a "Couples Fair" on Jewish marriage which explored the various traditions (Sephardic and Ashkenazic) of Jewish marriage.

Of special satisfaction to Mrs. Gurevitch was that preparations for these events are themselves an enriching learning experience for all the women involved. "Through working on the event, they put their creativity to work for something that connects them to their history."

Elie Wiesel in conversation with the cheder boys.



In 1976, when Chabad-Lubavitch was first introduced to Lyons, there was one *mikvah* in the entire city. Today there are six. Back then there was no kosher food establishment. Today Lyons is proud to offer five kosher supermarkets and four kosher restaurants.

In 1986, due to the rapid growth of Lubavitch activities, the Gurevitchs' were joined by Rabbi Gurevitch's brother, Rabbi Shalom and his wife Chana Sheina. In 1989 they opened a new Chabad center in Ecully, a suburb west of Lyon.

With a Jewish population of about 35,000—a number of whom have pre-World War II roots there, Lyons' Jewish community has a diversity of educational and social needs. The Gurevitchs believe that Chabad-Lubavitch has the answer to those needs. It is up to them, they feel, to open the way to a promising and fulfilling Jewish experience for the Jews of their city. ■

Third in a series on Lubavitch in France

The Jewish Experience

REMEMBER THE STORY OF HILLEL, the Sage whose love for Torah study would stop at nothing? Remember hearing about how, when one day he had no money to pay the doorman at the House of Study, he climbed up to the rooftop of the *Bet Hamidrash*, and lay upon the skylight to hear the voices of Torah study? Soon the sage fell asleep and a steady snowfall buried him under a thick blanket of snow.

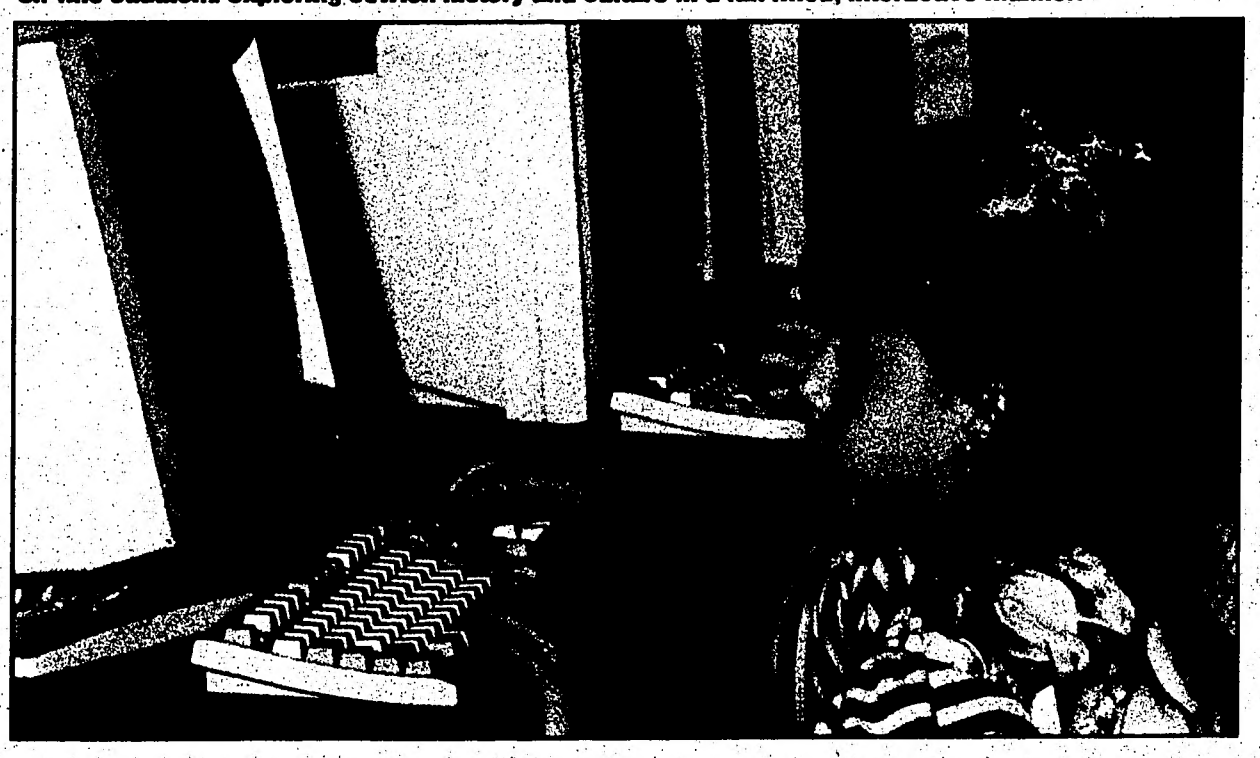
Children at The Jewish Experience are enraptured by the story as it comes to life, unfolding in a three dimensional exhibit before their eyes. Their young imaginations open wide as they go back into history, through vividly designed exhibits of the people, the places and events that reflect our Jewish experience from biblical to modern times.

Last May, The Jewish Children's Museum opened 50,000 square feet of a multimedia Jewish exhibition that has drawn more than 25,000 children and hundreds of schools and day camps. Through exhibits, shows, interactive computers and arts workshops, the children are educated, entertained and challenged as they explore Jewish history, tradition and culture.

Necessity is the mother of all invention, goes the aphorism. The need to educate Jewish children has never been greater, and the pressure is on to educate them while their malleable minds are open and receptive to the richness and beauty of the history and heritage they have inherited.

Tzivos Hashem, the International Jewish Children's Organization, is in the vanguard of creative educational projects for Jewish children. For years, it has produced some of the most innovative educational pro-

On-line Judaism: exploring Jewish history and culture in a fun filled, interactive manner.



Hands-On: practicing the art of Jewish calligraphy. This beautiful workshop, and others like it, broaden the child's Jewish horizons as they entertain and teach.

grams. Best known among these is the Jewish Family Expo, a two-week long annual Expo at the Jacob J. Javits Center in New York City, drawing thousands of children, with their parents and schools to its thoughtfully planned exhibits of Jewish life from biblical to modern times.

"After the success of the Expo in recent years," explained Rabbi Y. Benjaminson, Executive Director of Tzivos Hashem, "we realized that two weeks a year is simply not enough."

As long as there are Jewish children, especially kids who aren't getting a proper education, Tzivos Hashem would have to respond to the need for a stimulating Jewish experience. Furthermore, explains Rabbi Benjaminson, "schools, synagogues and other Jewish educational institutions cannot compete with the sophisticated array of distractions that vie for a child's attention." Borrowing from popular culture, an expanded and enhanced production of the Expo would run for three months, allowing many more schools, as well as day camps to visit the Exhibit.

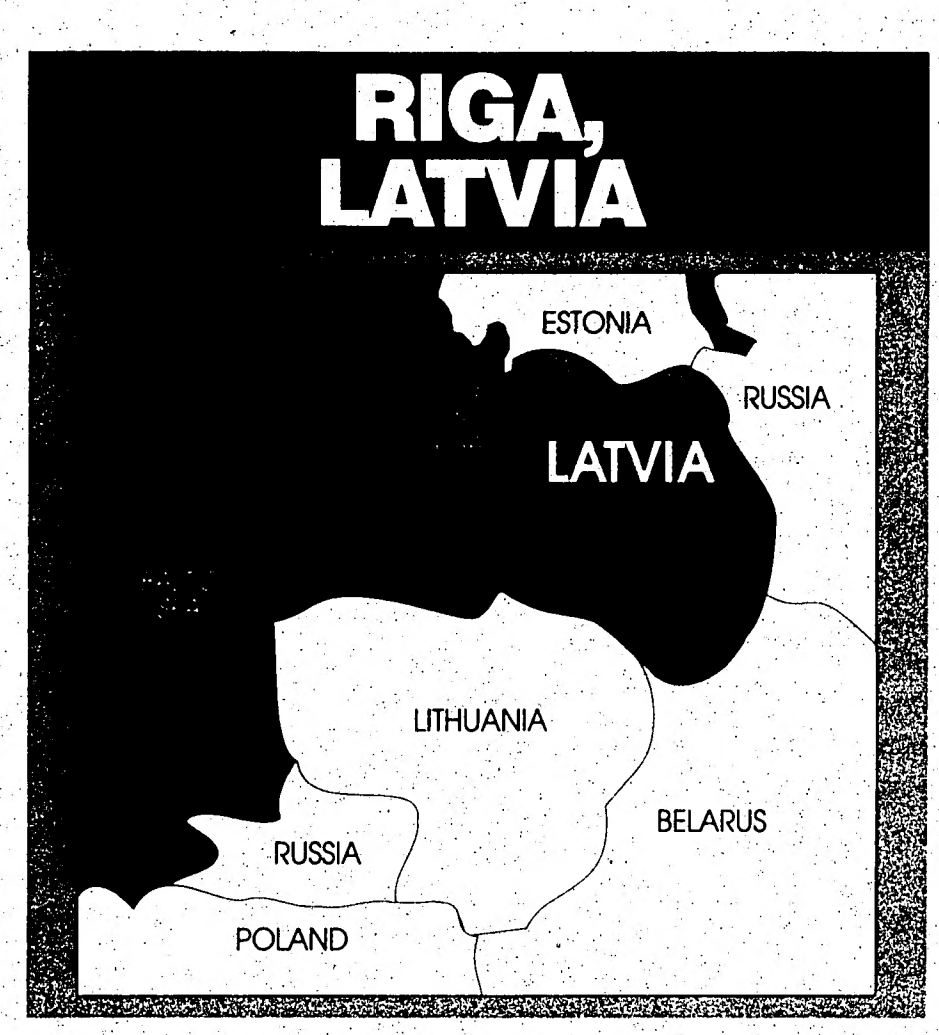
The results speak for themselves: Children roar with laughter and cheer with excitement as contestants try for a match in the Torah Concentration, a takeoff of the popular TV game show. Others watch with mouths agape, as little Abraham discovers G-d. "We've had public school children with zero Jewish education, children from traditional yeshivas and those in between," says Rabbi Shalom B. Baumgarten, Exhibit Coordinator. Indeed, the range of exhibits and activities, so wide and varied, is designed to stimulate children at all levels of Jewish awareness.

"Creating this Experience," says Rabbi Benjaminson, "has been possible because of the generosity of Larry Silverstein of Silverstein Properties, who has provided Tzivos Hashem with the 50,000 square feet of space in the Yale Building on Manhattan's West Side Highway to house the exhibit." In addition, says Rabbi Benjaminson, Tzivos Hashem drew upon a core of exceptionally talented people, artists, designers and engineers who devoted many months of round the clock work.

So successful is the exhibit that it has been extended through 1994 at its present location. After that? Watch for The Jewish Museum, a permanent exhibit—expanded and enlarged, to be announced in the near future.

The animated displays, the multi-media presentations and the crafts all add up to a day of great fun.

New Life in Latvia



IT IS NEVER EASY FOR A YOUNG LUBAVITCH COUPLE with small children to uproot themselves and relocate to a new city or country. It is especially difficult for such a couple to move to a country where the language is different, the mentality is different and the standard of living is far lower than what they are accustomed to. But they do it—the fruits of their labor motivating them to continue and to persevere.

Rabbi and Mrs. Mordechai Glazman, the Chabad Lubavitch representatives to Riga, Latvia, have to search deeper for motivation to inspire them to stay on and do the work they do. "The attitude here is extremely secular," explains Rabbi Glazman. "Culturally, Latvia has been under the influence of Germany, and this is very much apparent within the Jewish community." The secularism of the Enlightenment has dug deep roots into the Latvian Jewish mentality, and the Glazmans have to work through the indifference and cynicism that often greets them there.

Things aren't made easier by the fact that Latvia's Jewish population, estimated at 20,000, is quickly diminishing. "We reach out to children and their parents, through our day camp, Sunday schools and other programs, and just as we are begin to see some positive results with the people, we learn that they are moving out of the country. This is typical," says Rabbi Glazman, "because of new laws restricting employment to Latvian citizens who speak the language." With the large majority of the Jewish population in Riga of Russian origin, hardly any qualify for work. In addition, those who become interested in Judaism want to emigrate to Israel where they can grow in a more spiritually hospitable environment.

Add to that the primitive living conditions: No hot water on a regular basis, very little electricity, a lack of food and fresh produce—and life in Riga for the Glazmans, who are accustomed to a western standard of living, is a day to day struggle. But with a summer day camp attended by more than 100 children, an overnight camp at the seaside for pre-Bar Mitzvah boys, a Sunday school for 50 children, a twice weekly adult education class drawing more than 50 women, the Glazmans have succeeded remarkably.

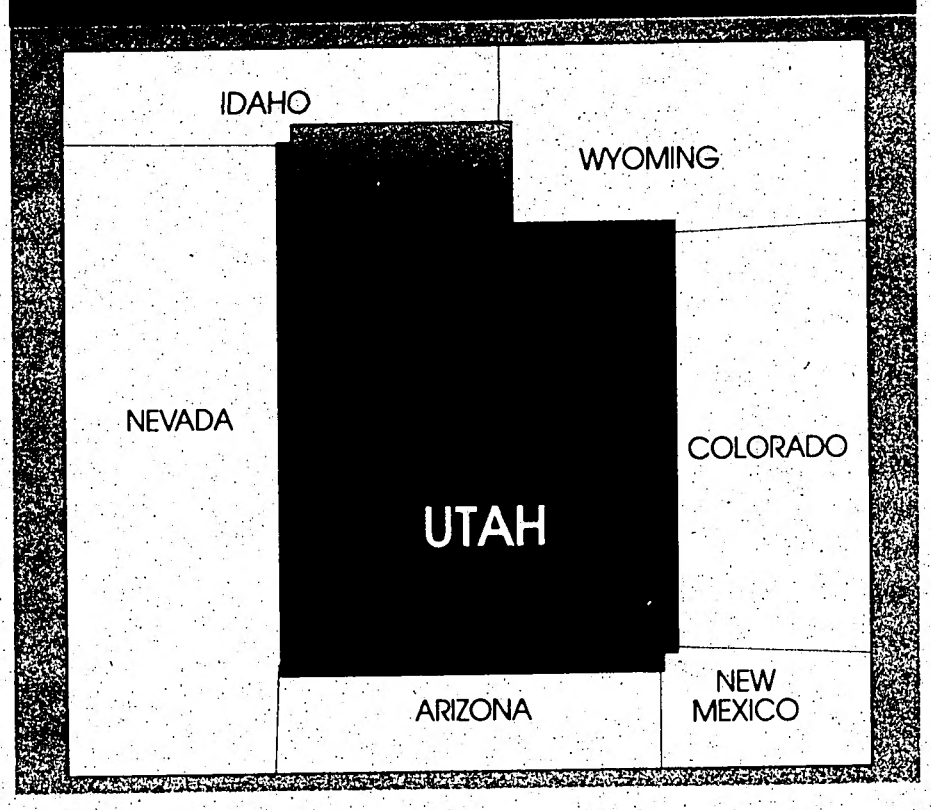
Ever grateful for the regular food shipments by Rabbi Shmuel Azimov of Paris, the Glazman's were able to conduct Passover Seders for 600 people. "We have come to rely on Rabbi Azimov's shipments regularly—making all of our holiday programs possible," says Mrs. Glazman. A gala Lag B'omer parade was attended by well over 1000 people, and a Chanukah menorah lighting ceremony in the heart of the city, brought out some 1500 Latvians into the freezing winter night.

Rabbi Glazman, 28, is a native of Israel and was ordained at the Lubavitch Yeshiva in New York. His wife, Rivkie (Marmulszteyn) is from New York where she received her educational training. The couple has two children.

At summer camp: Rabbi Glazman teaches the significance of the Shabbat candles.

Lubavitch Arrives in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH



Stranded, with a two-hour wait for his flight to New York City, the restless businessman did a double-take when he saw the Lubavitch couple and their children arriving at Salt Lake City International Airport. "I knew I could look up a Chabad House in Beverly Hills, in Las Vegas, and even in South Africa. But in Utah?!"

Much to the surprise of many, the Mormon capital of the world does have a substantial Jewish population. Drawn to Utah primarily for its business opportunities and its great skiing conditions, almost all of the 1250 Jewish families making up Utah's Jewish population live in Salt Lake City.

"The Jewish community welcomed us warmly and we are working closely with them to enhance the level of Jewish activity," said Rabbi Benny Zippel, the new Lubavitch representative to Utah.

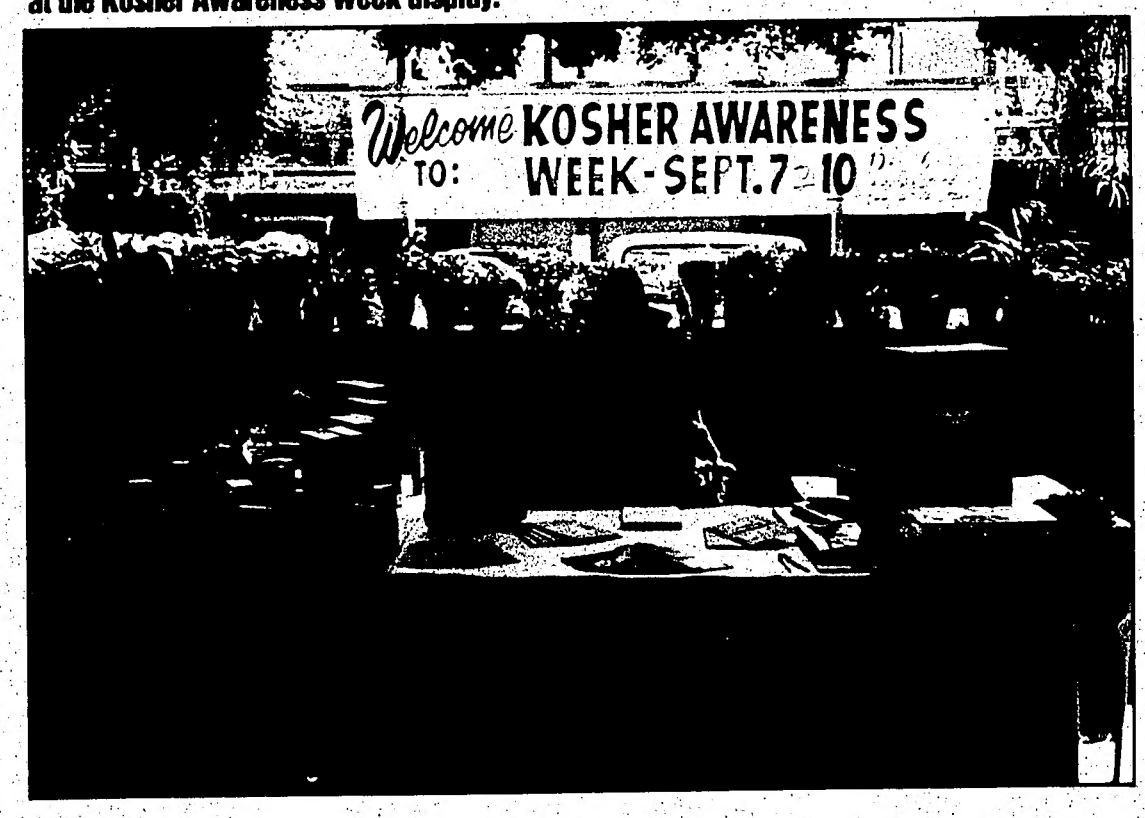
Since their arrival last July, Rabbi Zippel and his wife, Sharone, introduced a variety of outreach projects, all of which have been met with great success. "Kosher Week," as the kosher-awareness project is known, was held last September at Dan's Supermarket, where consumers learned—through kosher food displays and a video presentation—about the meaning of kosher and the laws of its observance. Local Jewish women participated in the event, greeting and welcoming other Jewish consumers.

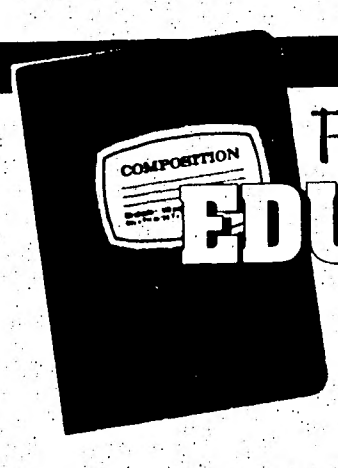
The activities of Chabad Lubavitch have caught the attention of city and state officials as well. Salt Lake City Mayor Dee Dee Corradini issued a proclamation declaring the second week of September "Kosher Awareness Week," and Senator Orrin Hatch has extended his help to the Zippels in their community outreach work.

Weekly Torah study classes at the Zippel's home, Friday night and Shabbat celebrations, and a series of lectures at the Jewish Community Center are only some of the many programs and activities which Chabad-Lubavitch has introduced to the Jewish community of Salt Lake City.

Rabbi Zippel, who studied at the Lubavitch Yeshiva in London, England, and received his ordination from the Lubavitch Rabbinical Seminary in New York, is a native of Milan, Italy. Mrs Zippel (nee Schochet), studied at Beth Jacob of Toronto, Canada, her hometown. She received her teacher's certification from Beth Rivkah in New York, and taught at the school's elementary division before moving to Utah. The couple has two children.

Rabbi Zippel gets a big hand from little Avremele Zippel at the Kosher Awareness Week display.





Focus on
EDUCATION

Escola Gani Brazil

THEY WERE BRIMMING WITH A familiar pride—the kind that Bubbes and Zeides exude when their grandchildren graduate, get married, or contribute in some significant way to the community, the country, maybe even the planet.

They—not only the parents, but the faculty and the guests were *shepping yiddishe nachas*. Their daughters were graduating, and, they will reassure you, this wasn't just any graduation. It was after all, *their* daughter's graduation.

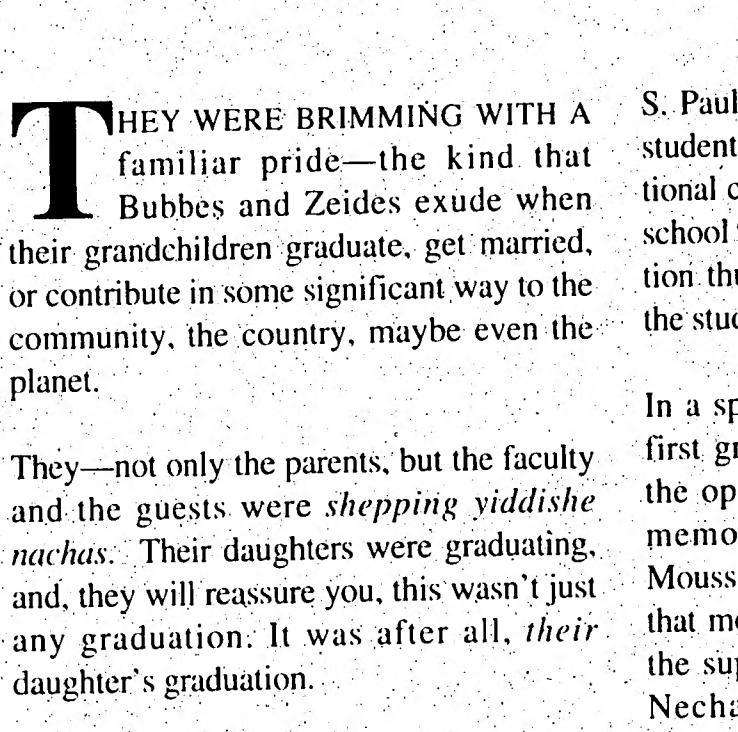
True. But this *really* was a special graduation. It was the first graduating class of Escola Gani-Lubavitch's Girl's division in S. Paulo, Brazil. What had begun with 10 students in 1986, had grown with an additional class every year, to a full elementary school with 140-plus students. The graduation thus marked a milestone not only for the students as well as for the school itself.

In a spate of good developments, Gani's first graduation last December prompted the opening of a high school, named in memory of the late Rebbetzin Chaya Moussia Schneerson. This, in turn, meant that more space would be necessary. With the support of Mr. and Mrs. Efraim and Nechama Reich, And Mr. and Mrs. Henrique and Baila Markovitz, Gani acquired a building that is now undergoing renovations. The new building will accommodate Gani's pre-school division (18 months through second grade), clearing space in its original building for the high school.

"We will continue our tradition of responding to the needs of Jewish education —we're geared up for dynamic expansion."

The inauguration ceremony for the new building was attended by city officials and distinguished guests, among them Mr. Israel Levine, president of the Jewish Federation, who greeted the occasion with words of praise and admiration for Gani's contribution to Brazil's Jewish community. Among the many guests who addressed the participants were Mrs. Fanny Rosentraub, President of WIZO, who expressed deep appreciation for the work of Lubavitch. "This school is a paradise for children in this world," said Mrs. Rosentraub. "Only Lubavitch could have achieved something like this." Gani is one of several Lubavitch institutions in S. Paulo under the administration of Rabbi Hersh Leib Begun. A parallel boy's school, under the direction of Rabbi Shmuel Asher Begun, has an enrollment of 150 students.

Explaining the rapid growth of Gani, Rabbi Mendel Begun, deputy director of the girl's school, talks of the outstanding curriculum developed by the school's faculty. "In both Hebrew and secular studies,



At the inauguration, from left: Mr. & Mrs. Samuel & Hanna Klein, President of Gani, Rabbi & Mrs. Hersh Leib Begun, Rabbi & Mrs. Mendel Begun.

The children at play (above); Escola Gani-Lubavitch, 1992 (right).

Royal entrance: Two Brazilian cavalry officers, in full dress, guard the entrance to the inauguration.

Gani offers a quality education." This, he explains, is especially important for Brazilian Jews who want to know that their children's Jewish education will be complemented by a competitive secular studies program.

Situated on lush green grounds lined with shady palm trees in the exclusive section of Perdizes, the school incorporates a broad range of extra-curricular activities, encouraging students to develop their skills in drama, dancing, gymnastics and home economics. In addition, computer science courses assure these students that they will be computer literate and competent to work in a high-tech environment upon graduating.

"Our top notch Hebrew studies department not only stimulates the students' intellectual abilities, but provides an atmosphere that is warm and personal, and imbues the students with defining values," explained Mrs. Rochi Korik, Hebrew principal. "This atmosphere carries over into the secular studies department and into the homes of the students."

The opening of Gani's high school at the beginning of the new school year (February, in Brazil), presents a new option for South American Jewish students looking for a good Jewish High School that's not too far from home.

"We expect that our High School will soon accommodate students from various cities and countries in South America," says Rabbi Hersh Leib Begun. Does that mean a new facility for feeding and housing these students? "The school is geared up for dynamic growth—and we'll continue our tradition of responding to the needs of Jewish education and Jewish students," says Rabbi Begun.

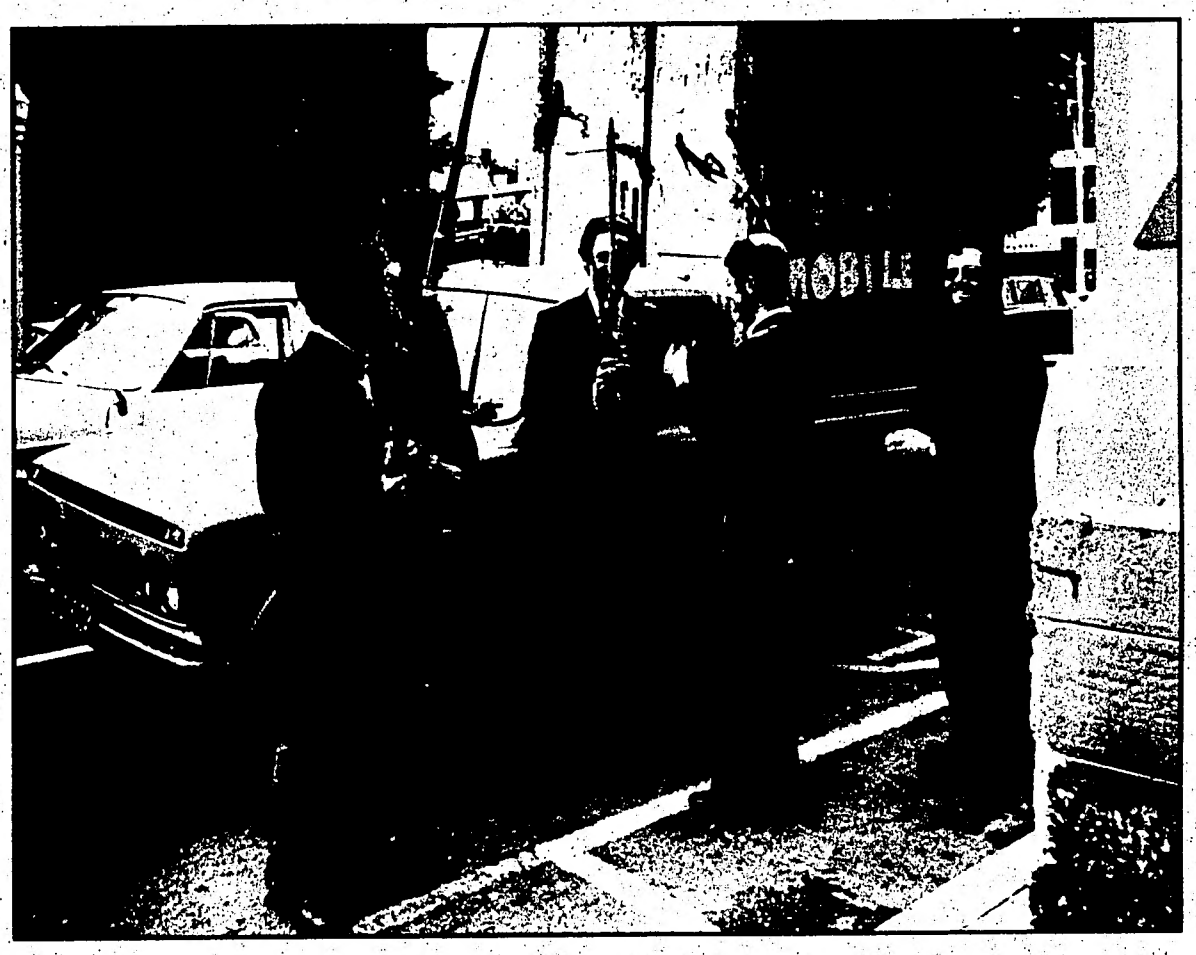
THEN & now

Lubavitch in South Africa

THEN

At the turn of the century, when Jews emigrated in record numbers from the shtetls and cities of Europe, most traveled west. One ship, however, headed south carrying a group of Chassidic Jews. Arriving from the Lithuanian city of Rakshik, these Chassidim were the first Jews to settle in South Africa. Hoping to carry on their Jewish lives, they established a Jewish community, a *mikvah* and a synagogue, the Chassidim Shul.

But unlike almost all other countries, whose Jewish communities experienced a renaissance as a result of large post World War II immigration, South Africa had no postwar immigration. Isolated from the hub of Jewish life in other parts of the world, the South African Jewish community, its proud identity notwithstanding, became vulnerable to assimilation. Slowly but surely, the Torah-oriented lifestyle gave way to a secular lifestyle, retaining, for the most part, only symbolic features of Jewish tradition.



Rabbi Mendel Lipskar with some young volunteers hit the streets with South Africa's first Succah Mobile.

When Rabbi Mendel and Masha Lipskar came from New York to Johannesburg in 1972 to establish the Lubavitch Foundation of Southern Africa and head all Lubavitch activities there, they found a very established, traditional, Zionist community. "It was and is still arguably the most organized Jewish community in the world," says Rabbi Lipskar, who also assumed the position of rabbi of the Chassidim Shul upon arriving in Johannesburg. The Lipskars were wel-

Women of worth: Mrs. Masha Lipskar lectures to Jewish women in one of the first womens' study groups.

comed into a community where attendance at Friday night services and kosher homes were practically the norm. On the other hand, there was a real ignorance of Torah values. Because the majority of Jews felt very connected, explains Rabbi Lipskar, they did not understand the need for the Jewish revival which Chabad-Lubavitch wanted to spark in South Africa.

Eventually, they came to recognize that their children and grandchildren were drifting away from their roots. "The troubles that plagued Jewish youth and college students in America and elsewhere, were making inroads into the South African Jewish community," he says.

Rabbi Lipskar began working with university students and quickly established a variety of educational services in the community. Three people joined the first Thursday night Torah learning class, at the home of Joe Davidovitz. Soon the Lipskars' programs began attracting young people, many of whom went abroad to study Torah.

Returning after several years, these young people, now married and fully committed Torah Jews, became the core of the Johannesburg Chassidic community. As the various programs expanded, the Lubavitch Foundation of South Africa brought Chabad-Lubavitch couples from the United States to direct a rapidly developing network of programs.

By 1979, the need for a Jewish day school had become apparent. The Lubavitch community had grown, and parents wanted their children to benefit from a comprehensive Jewish education. The Torah Academy, established to meet this need, opened its doors to a handful of children, offering an outstanding education in general and Judaic studies.

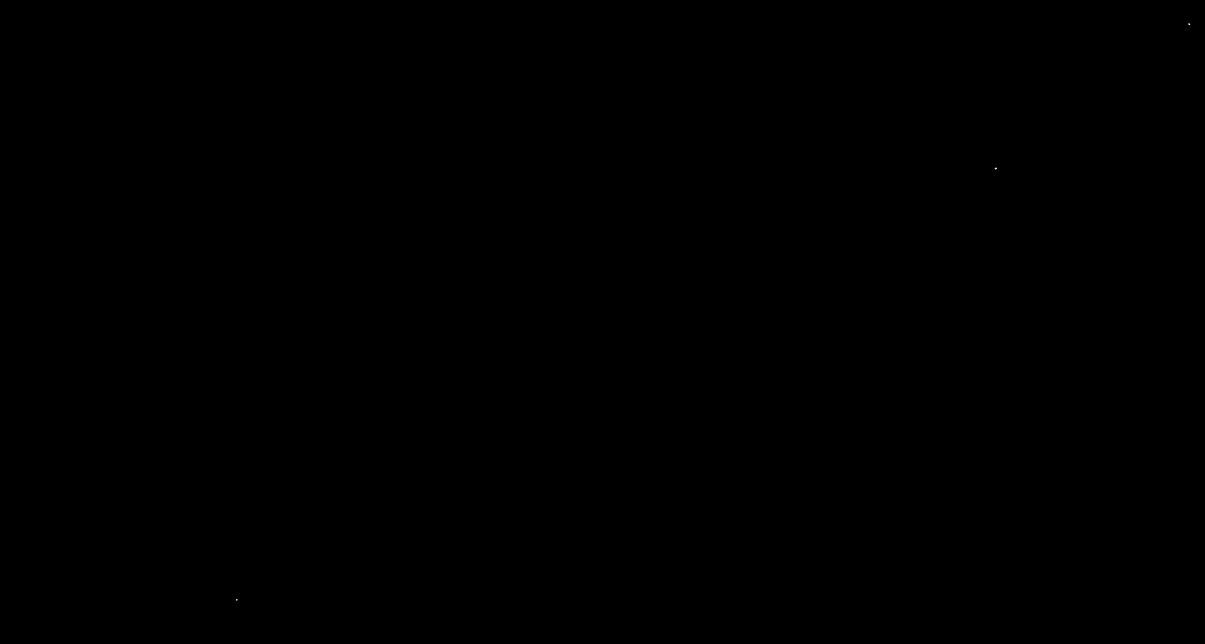
Soon Chabad houses were burgeoning in the outlying suburbs of Johannesburg. Lubavitch was growing both in reputation and activities, drawing dramatically large numbers of friends, supporters and members throughout the country. N'shei Chabad, the women's division of Lubavitch in South Africa, became an active and highly visible force promoting Jewish women and family concerns, earning it a wide and respectable reputation throughout South Africa's Jewish community.

Mrs. Rochel Goldman receives an official proclamation for "Jewish Women's Week from then Mayor of Johannesburg, Mr. Eddy Magid.

now

With a changed government and an entirely new political climate, many South African Jews live with a sense of foreboding. The stark rise in crime and violence in South Africa, have been a cause for real concerns that a white flight from South Africa will gain momentum, as more and more whites leave the country.

Now more than ever, Lubavitch in South Africa has been an anchoring presence, bringing a sense of stability and reassurance to the larger Jewish community. "You would be hard-pressed to find a single Jewish family today, who has not in some way, at least indirectly, benefited from the work of Lubavitch," says Rabbi Yossy Goldman, rabbi of the Sydenham Highlands North Synagogue and producer and host of Swazi Radio's popular "The Jewish Sound," Africa's only Jewish radio program now in it's 18th year. The Lubavitcher Rebbe, literally a household name in all South African Jewish homes, has been a constant source of encouragement to SA's Jewish community. "The Rebbe has repeatedly told us that life in South Africa will always be good for its Jews, regardless of the political changes that are taking place here," he says. Indeed, it is on account of the Rebbe's reasurrance that many of South Africa's Jewish population, numbering about 110,000, with roughly half in Johannesburg, have chosen to stay in the country.

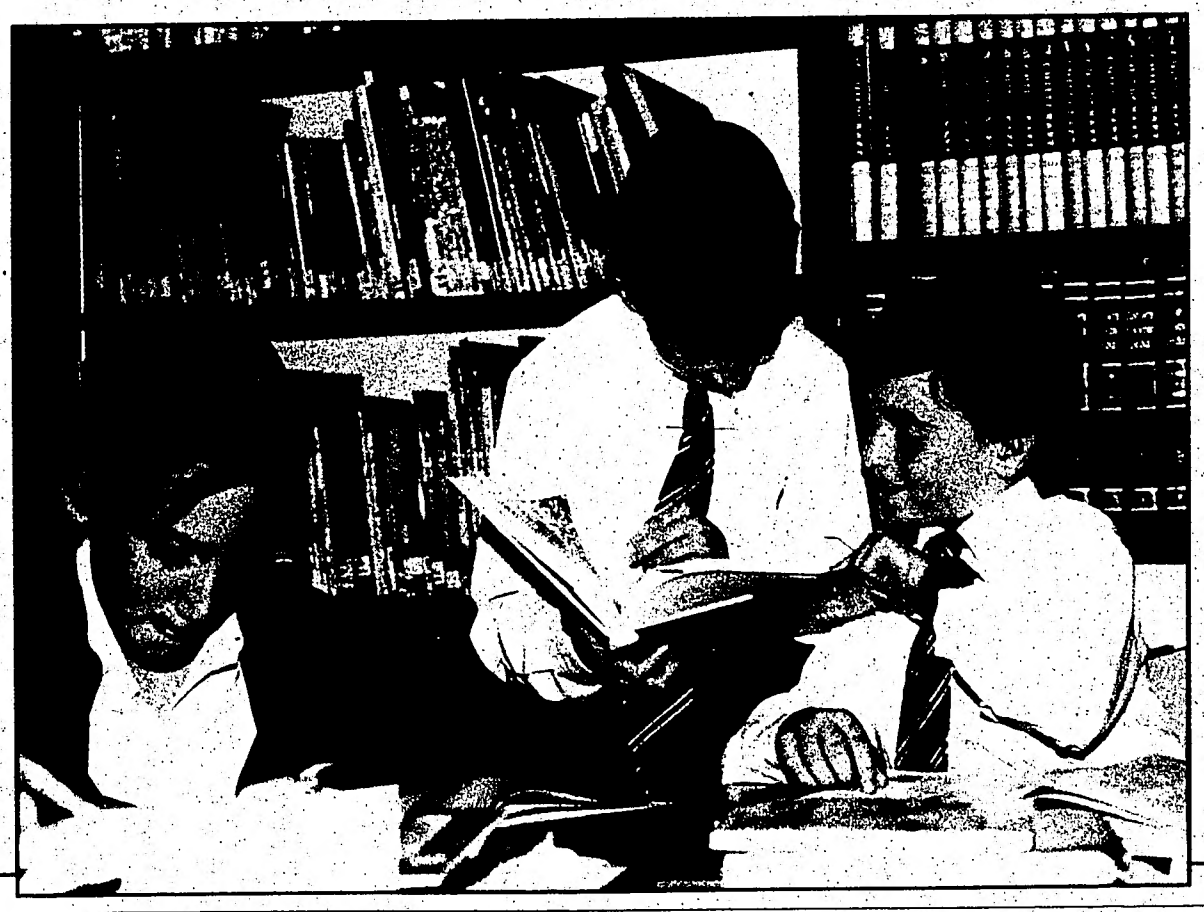


Friends in deed: Mr. Meyer Kahn (left), chairman of Chabad House's Miracle Drive Campaign, receives a giant contribution from Mr. Jimmy Mackenzie of First National Bank.

With its dynamic and expansive network of synagogues and centers serving the South African Jewish community, Lubavitch has been the catalyst for an incredible renaissance of Jewish life in South Africa. "The *teshuvah* movement is probably the strongest in South Africa," says Rabbi Goldman.

Today, the South African Jewish community has come to expect and appreciate the day camps, the overnight camps, the adult education and holiday awareness programs, the Lag B'omer Parades, and the wide variety of educational and cultural activities which Lubavitch has brought to the Jewish community. The Torah Academy, which has expanded into a school system of 800 students, comprises an elementary boys' and girls' division, a 22-acre boys' high school, and a girls' high school. Plans are now underway for a Torah Academy Teacher's College.

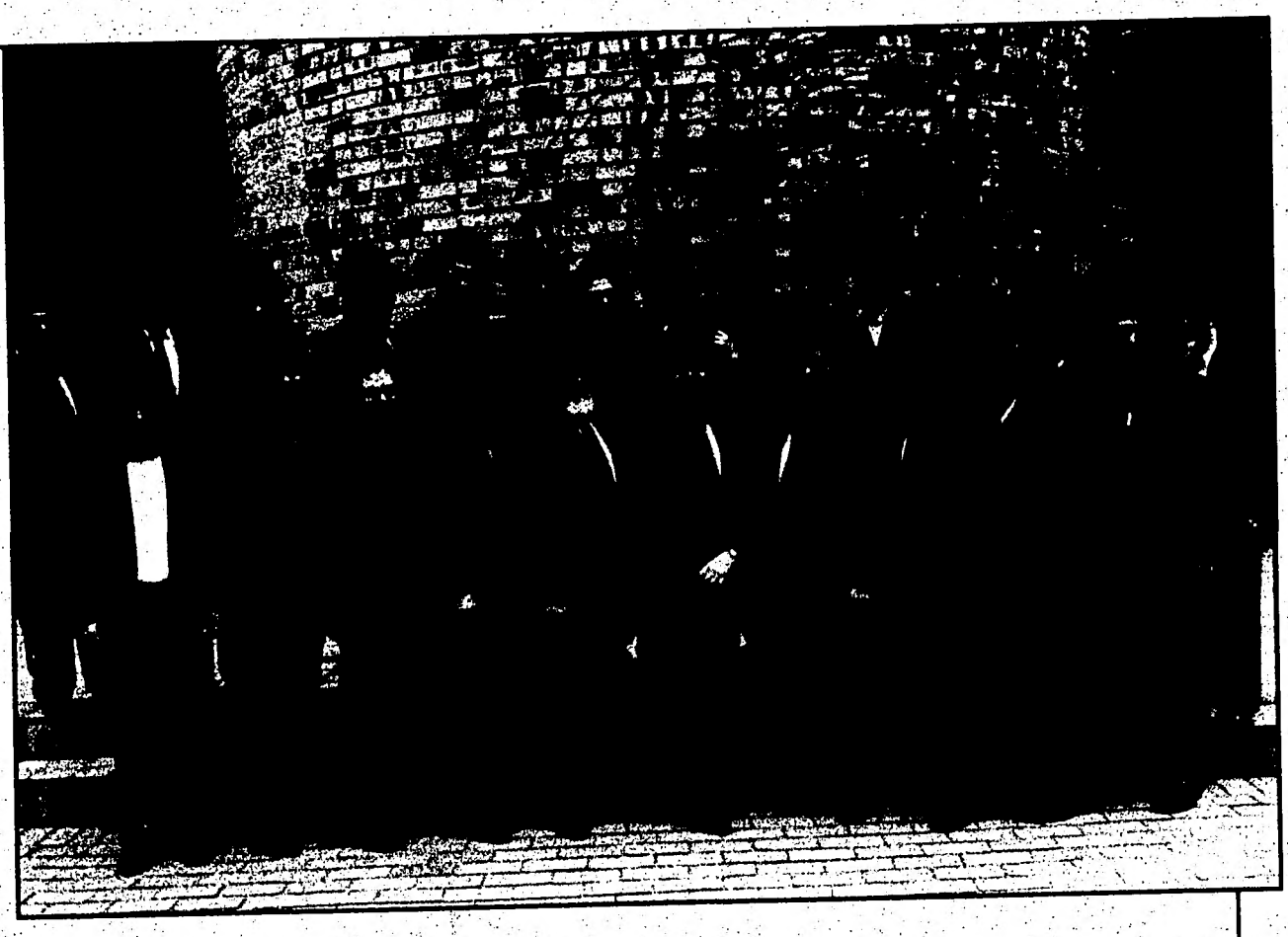
In addition to the central Chabad House, Chabad Houses can be found on the



Reading is fun: at the well-stocked library of the boys' primary school.

North Coast near Durban (*Lubavitch International, vol. 1, issue 1*), in Sandton, in Illovo, and in Lyndhurst Kew. An entire Lubavitch network of Chabad Houses and education centers flourishes in South Africa's mother city of Cape Town.

The success of Lubavitch in South Africa is easily measured by the growing numbers of Jewish families who are totally committed to Torah and *mitzvot*, as a result of Lubavitch's outreach activities. As for the future? Rabbi Lipskar: "We intend to keep up our work, to keep growing and to continue educating South African Jews with true Jewish values." ■



The team: the Lubavitch representatives in Southern Africa at their annual conference (above). The Crown Jewel of Lubavitch of Souther Africa: The Torah Academy campus (below).

Little Leaguers Bring Home More than Pennant

WITH ONLY TWO OUTS LEFT TO the game, the tying run on first and the winning run at the plate, the pressure is on. Crack! It looks like it might get through for a base hit, but the shortstop scoops it up to second for one—to first . . . double play! and the game is over. They've done it again.

These little leaguers play their game with *tzitzit* hanging out and a yarmulka under their caps. Although they love the sport, they wouldn't play on Saturdays or Jewish holidays. That's okay, though, because as members of the Shomer Shabbos Division of the West Brighton New York Little League, their team never meets on Shabbat, and the West Brighton Little League schedules their games around the Shomer Shabbos Division.

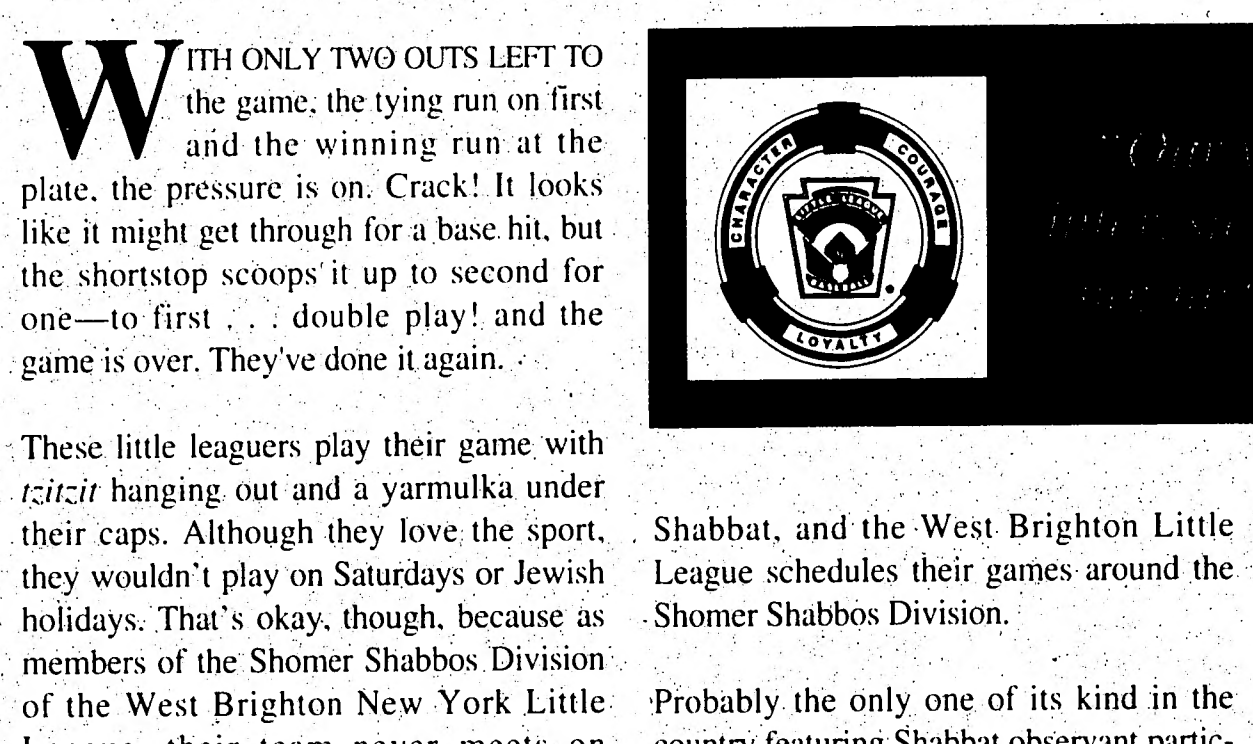
Probably the only one of its kind in the country featuring Shabbat observant participation in the world of official Williamsport (PA) Little League Franchises, the Shomer Shabbos Division found a way to bring a Jewish atmosphere onto the field, where baseball is not the only way to score runs.

"The Shomer Shabbos program in the Little League encourages non-observant children to identify and take pride in the fact that they are Jewish while affording children from observant homes the chance to participate in competitive baseball the "kosher way."

In 1988, the Tzivos Hashem Youth Club of the Seabreeze Jewish Center noticed a pattern of dwindling membership during the spring months. Baseball season had begun, and, putting Judaism on the back burner, the kids were all off playing Little League baseball.

"We decided to extend the educational pro-

With tzitzit flying, ace right-hander Jay Nathanson fires a strike.



In their brightly colored uniforms The Shomer Shabbos Little League team strike a handsome pose.

grams of Tzivos Hashem to kids who want to play baseball," says Rabbi Michoel Albukerk, Youth Services Director of Tzivos Hashem. "There are so many Jewish kids who play the sport, we thought this would be a great way to reach out to them".

A last minute roster, filled by local Talmud Torah students and Tzivos Hashem members formed the first Shabbos observant program in official Little League in NY.

The Shomer Shabbos Division fields teams in the Minor League and Major League age groups. Games are played on Sunday through Thursday at the Fred C. Trump field in West Brighton.

The Tzivos Hashem teams have won pennants in the West Brighton Little League's regular championships in both Major and Minor divisions. The Minor League Team "Alef" has dominated first place for the last two years.

In inter-league competition the Tzivos Hashem players were pitted against teams from all over Brooklyn. In a tournament played against Coney Island's Little League , the "Jewish Kids" chalked up an impressive 3-1 record last year. "Playing against tough, inner city kids, they exhibited a healthy confidence in their ability to successfully compete in baseball in the framework of Torah and *mitzvot*," says Rabbi Albukerk. "In the long run, they gain the confidence to compete in the real world as proud Jews."

Tzivos Hashem Little League activities are not restricted to the sport. "Our volunteer coaches are interested in the boys as people, not just as baseball players," says Rabbi Albukerk.

Tzivos Hashem sponsors Shabbaton weekends for the players during which they participate in and enjoy a proper Shabbat experience. Team trips, including a day in Diamond seats at Mets and Yankee games, make membership in the Shomer Shabbos Division exciting for all the kids.

The division has an interesting diversity of youngsters: Boys from assimilated homes, Russian immigrants, Hispanic Jewish children and children from observant homes.

"The experience is enriching and rewarding to all the members on the team—athletically, socially and spiritually," says Rabbi Albukerk.

Boston University

STUDENTS AT BOSTON UNIVERSITY warm up quickly to the Chabad Rabbi's wacky sense of humor. His easygoing style and spirited demeanor brings relief to the tension and stress of overworked students.

Boston University, noted for its engineering, law and science departments, has an exceptionally large student body. As with any large university, students here can easily get "lost." The environment is impersonal and assimilation is prevalent among Jewish students."

Sharing the mitzvot: Rabbi Posner brings the lulav and etrog to the students at BU.

Since its establishment 15 years ago by Rabbi Chaim Prus, director of Chabad-Lubavitch activities in Eastern Mass., Chabad House at Boston University has provided students with an antidote to the feeling of being "lost." Rabbi and Mrs. Shmuel and Chani Posner, and their children, have brought a sense of community to the Jewish students on campus. In the words of one student, "Chabad provides a *heimish* atmosphere and gives students a sense of being part of a large family."

A light moment with Rabbi Posner.

The Posners, Chabad-Lubavitch representatives at BU since 1986, have developed a program that appeals to students in a variety of ways. Whether it is the weekly study classes with Rabbi Posner, Friday night and Shabbat celebrations with the Posner family, special lectures by visiting scholars, holiday programs and other events, Jewish students at BU are taking stock of their Jewish legacy, and coming away with more credits than they bargained for.

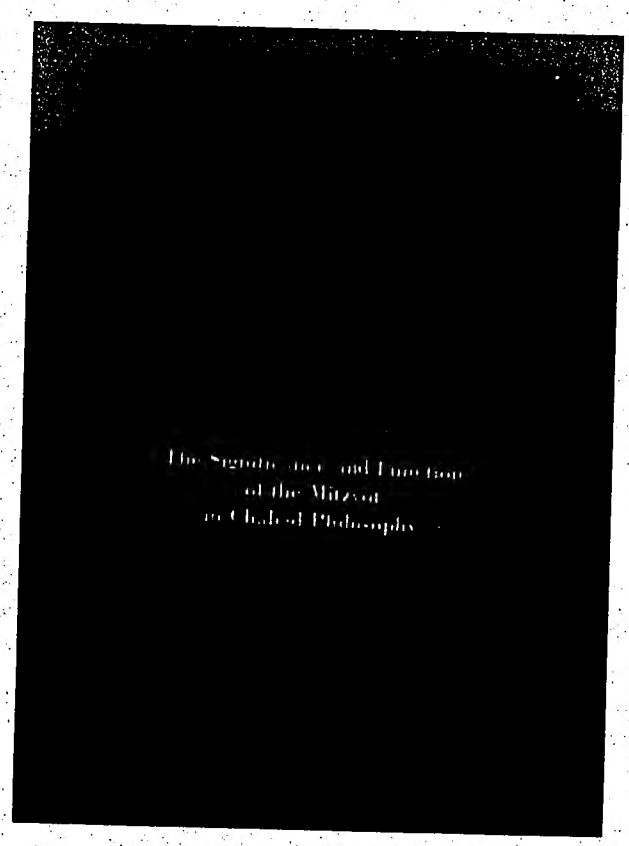
Rabbi Posner works closely with students on an individual basis and extends the services of Chabad at BU to Jewish students at the neighboring universities including Harvard, MIT, Northeastern and Berklee College of Music.

"What Chabad tries to do through its programs on campus is to bring Judaism alive to these students, and let them see how one's Jewish identity can express itself in all aspects of life," says Rabbi Posner.

Joseph Kanofsky, a graduate student majoring in European literature and who has been at BU since his freshman year, is very involved with Chabad activities on campus. "For the Jewish kids who come from non-affiliated homes, Chabad provides a unique service," Kanofsky says.

"Jewish students are often burdened by the nagging question of their Jewish identity." And because college is a crucial time for self-definition, he says, "it is vital that Chabad-Lubavitch reaches them at this point in their lives."

The Divine Commandments



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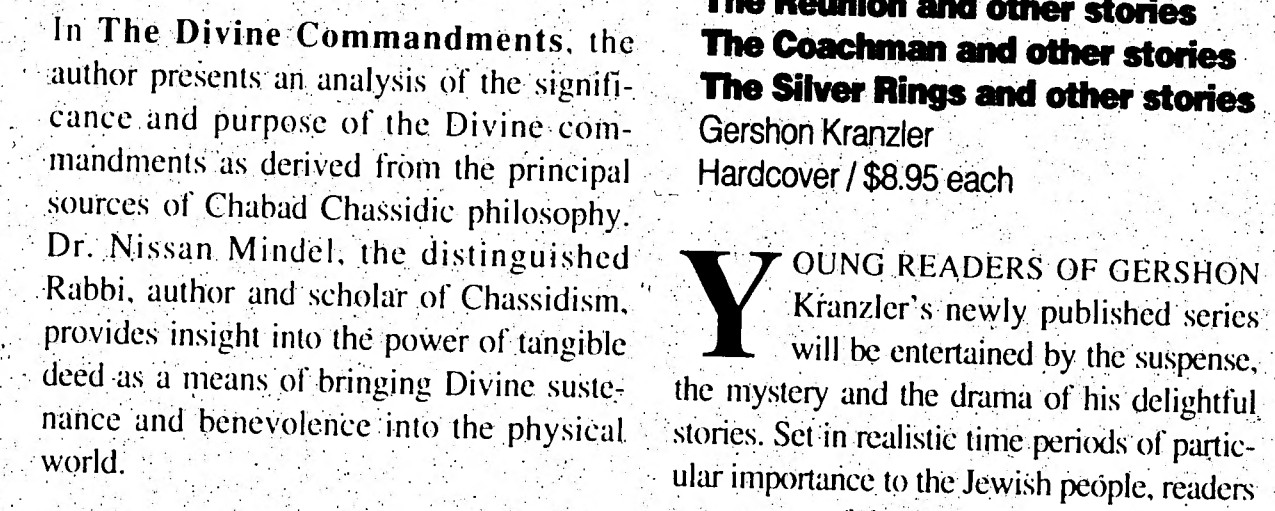

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Photos Sholom B. Goldstein

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